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The New York Times
8-page supplement



3-D films in Tel Aviv

Arts & Entertainment, Page 5



European Ryder Cup team almost complete

Page 10

Index	
Arts & Entertainment	5
Business	8
Crossword	11
Movies/TV	11
Opinion	6
Sports	10

Azzam Azzam sentenced to 15 years

By JAY BUSHINSKY, DAVID RUDGE
and news agencies

An Egyptian court sentenced Israeli Druse Azzam Azzam yesterday to 15 years in jail with hard labor for spying for Israel. The judgment was announced in the state security court in Cairo, which also gave Egyptian Emad Ismail a life sentence. Two Israeli Druse women also received life sentences in absentia.

Netanyahu appeals to Mubarak for release

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told the weekly cabinet meeting yesterday that Azzam Azzam is innocent and should not spend a single day more in an Egyptian jail. He said he sent a message to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last week asking

that he exert his influence to win Azzam's release. He sent it to the Egyptian leader again, this time on behalf of the entire government. Astonished and disappointed at the sentence, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai recalled that he gave Mubarak "his word of honor" that an investigation showed that Azzam Azzam was not engaged by any element of Israel's security apparatus.

Azzam and Ismail were charged with making criminal arrangements to spy for the Mossad. Two Israeli Druse women — Zahra Greiss and Mona Shawahna — who were tried in absentia on the same charges, got life sentences. Prosecutors charged that the women recruited Ismail as a spy. They said Greiss seduced Ismail while he was working in Israel as a way to get him to spy on Egypt. The prosecution also said that Ismail was offered \$1,000 a month for information on Egyptian companies, the situation of Egyptian workers in Jordan and security measures taken by Egypt toward Egyptians who approach Israel's embassy in Cairo.

Both men had pleaded innocent. Farid Deeb, Azzam's attorney, also had argued that Ismail was tricked by police into signing a confession, maintaining this proved Azzam's innocence. He said Ismail went to police after becoming suspicious that Greiss and Shawahna were recruiting him as a spy. The lawyer said police told Ismail he would be freed if he wrote down what happened, but instead he was detained. Relatives and friends of Azzam yesterday called on the government and Netanyahu in particular to do everything possible to secure his release. The sentence of Azzam shocked the close-knit Druse community throughout the country and especially among relatives in friends in his home vil-

lage Mughar in Lower Galilee. His brother Fhandi Azzam said the family were in a state of shock and everything possible was being done to calm Azzam's wife and four children following the verdict. The family reiterated that Azzam was innocent of the charges against him and that his arrest, trial and sentence were politically motivated.

Batsheva Tsur Adds: President Ezer Weizman expressed the hope that the heavy sentence meted out to Azzam would not cast too deep a pall on relations with Egypt. He said that he had made extensive enquiries and had not found any evidence to indicate that Azzam was involved in espionage. Much of the evidence against Azzam was based on an Egyptian laboratory test which indicated that invisible ink was present in ladies underwear, the means by which Azzam sent messages back to Israel. The court rejected Deeb's request to have the lingerie tested at a neutral laboratory abroad. However, other tests in Egyptian laboratories have been questioned. For example, bubble gum imported through Israel to Gaza was tested for progesterone, a female hormone, and found positive. The same gum tested separately in Israeli and UK labora-



Azzam Azzam in a Cairo court cage yesterday. (Reuters)
ries found there was no progesterone.

School opens today

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Cover those schoolbooks. Make those sandwiches. The school year begins today, after agreements signed yesterday between the Education Ministry and the teachers' unions.

The National Parents Association also agreed to withdraw its threat to keep pupils home today.

The agreement calls for the ministry to return all teachers let go as a result of last year's cuts and to restore 70,000 classroom hours.

However, schools in Arab areas will be closed through Wednesday to protest their poor conditions. Other partial disruptions of classes are expected in Upper Nazareth, Herzliya, Acre, Beersheba, Atlit, Bene Ayish and the Golan Heights, Shmuel Abuav of the Union of Local Councils said.

At the conclusion of an often raucous meeting, the Knesset Education Committee called on the teachers "to open the school year tomorrow as scheduled."

It also said after the meeting that "in the current situation, restoring the hours and teaching positions as they were at the end of the last school year takes precedence over anything else and any new initiative in the educational system."

See SCHOOL, Page 2

Centenary of First Zionist Congress marked

By MARILYN HENRY

BASEL — One-thousand Jews and Swiss political and business leaders packed into the meeting hall of the Basel casino yesterday, marking the centenary of the day that 200 delegates met in the same room for the First Zionist Congress.

A small explosive went off shortly after midnight yesterday in the center of town, damaging a fire on a car. Police said they did not think the bomb was related to the Zionist celebration.

The official Basel Zionist centennial began 15 minutes late. The hall was stifling, and there were repeated murmurs about "hot air." However, the event was notable for what was not said.

The main speakers made no overt references to the current imbroglio.

See BASEL, Page 4

World mourns Princess Diana



Prince Charles, accompanied by French President Jacques Chirac (rear) and Princess Diana's sister Lady Jane Fellowes, leaves the Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris where Diana died. (Reuters)

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
and news agencies

LONDON — Britain's Prince Charles brought the body of his former wife Princess Diana home to a grieving nation yesterday after she was killed in a high-speed Paris car crash as she was pursued by photographers on motorcycles.

Funeral arrangements for Diana are expected to be announced today, Buckingham Palace said. Diana's tragic death triggered a

worldwide outpouring of grief for a woman whose life was both fairly tale and tragedy, and a wave of anger against the media she had by

More on Diana, Pages 2, 3

turns courted and abused. Diana, 36, died with millionaire companion Dodi Al Fayed with

whom she had dined at the Ritz hotel in Paris.

Their Mercedes-Benz car, chased by paparazzi on motorbikes, hit a concrete post in a road tunnel by the River Seine.

Diana's two sisters accompanied Charles to collect the body.

Their plane touched down under grey skies at the Northolt military airport just outside London some 18 hours after the accident.

See DIANA, Page 4

COMMENT

Hounded to death: A modern legend

By THOMAS O'DWYER

She rose beyond celebrity to become a myth. In her death, Diana, Princess of Wales, will become a tragic legend, a Greek-style heroine consumed by that which she was nourished by.

Our modern world has little time for mythology, tuned instead to the media babble of those who would become legends in their own lunchtime. Soap opera instead of opera.

That does not mean the modern world has lost the need for that myth and legend that gave our forefathers a heroic aiming point they may be could never reach, but always could strive for.

The signs were there yesterday that ancient myth-creation was again at work, helping a stunned world to understand what has happened. Diana's new beau, Dodi Fayed had produced the Oscar-winning British movie *Chariots of Fire*. He left the world in a chariot of death. The car hit the 13th pillar in the Seine tunnel.

Diana's brother had always said the press would kill her in the end, and the lovers died fleeing from their relentless demons.

See HOUNDED, Page 4

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Princess Di

July 1, 1961 -
Aug. 31, 1997

By DAVID VON DREHLE

July 1, 1961 - Born into aristocratic family, third of four children of Lord and Lady Althorp.

Early years: Diana brought up at her father's house on the royal estate at Sandringham in eastern England and the family home of Althorp, in the English Midlands.

1969 - Marriage of Diana's parents dissolved. Her father won battle for custody of children.

School days: Educated at West Heath, a boarding school in southern England, and a finishing school in Switzerland. Helped to run a nursery in London on leaving school.

1977 - Met Prince Charles at Althorp. Charles, courting her elder sister Sarah, had been invited to the house to join a shooting party.

February 24, 1981 - Engagement to Charles announced.

July 29, 1981 - Charles, Prince of Wales and heir to the British throne, married Lady Diana Spencer in a sumptuous ceremony at St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

June 21, 1982 - First child born. William Arthur Philip Louis, known as Will. Diana suffered post-natal depression.

September 15, 1984 - Second child born. Henry Charles Albert David, known as Harry.

1985 - First reports of difficulties in royal marriage.

1986 - Charles renewed his relationship with Camilla Parker Bowles, a woman he later referred to as "the love of his life".

Diana developed slimming disorder bulimia nervosa. Royal couple continued public duties, but in private they were soon leading separate lives.

June 1992 - Diana - Her True Story by tabloid reporter Andrew Morton published. Diana cooperated, through friends, in the writing of the book which showed her trapped in a loveless marriage and attempting suicide to attract Charles's attention.

August 25, 1992 - Newspapers published excerpts of a taped telephone conversation between Diana and James Gilby, who called her "Squidgy" and told her repeatedly that he loved her.

December 9, 1992 - Prime Minister John Major announced in Parliament the couple's formal separation.

September 1994 - Princess In Love by Anna Pasternak published, telling of an affair between Diana and handsome cavalry officer James Hewitt.

November 20, 1995 - Princess of Wales gave television interview in which she admitted adultery with Hewitt and said she doubted Charles's ability to handle the responsibility of being king.

December 20, 1995 - Buckingham Palace confirmed Queen Elizabeth had written to Charles and Diana urging them to divorce.

December 30, 1995 - Prime Minister Major assured Diana of a major role in public life despite the prospect of divorce.

February 28, 1996 - Diana agreed to the request for a divorce, calling it the saddest day of her life.

July 12 - Charles and Diana agreed on divorce terms. Diana was to get a reported £17 million (\$26 million) settlement, but was stripped of the title "Her Royal Highness".

July 15 - London court granted Charles and Diana a decree nisi, the first stage in a quick divorce, on the grounds that they had been separated for more than two years.

August 28 - Charles and Diana granted a decree absolute ending their 15-year marriage.

April 1, 1997 - Diana involved in scuffle with photographer outside gymnasium as she asks a passer-by to snatch film from photographer's camera.

July 18 - Prince Charles hosted glittering 50th birthday party for mistress Camilla Parker Bowles.

August 7 - First media reports that Diana had found a new love - Dodi Al Fayed.

August 22 - Diana began third and final holiday with Al Fayed in the Mediterranean.

August 31 - Diana killed in car crash with Al Fayed. Reuters

Her adult life was never really her own.

Diana, Princess of Wales, was barely past adolescence when she shouldered the world's fairy-tale dreams, and by the time she died of injuries suffered in a car wreck in Paris early yesterday morning, she had endured years in the media spotlight as the British monarchy's most photographed woman.

She was 36. It is possible that on some distant steppe or desert there are people who never saw a picture of the world's most photographed woman.

But it was not for lack of trying by the celebrity-fueled press that has come to girdle the globe. Nor was it for lack of glamor on the part of Diana Spencer.

Her face was instantly recognizable - especially in her iconic pose: her chin cast shyly downward, while her eyes caught the camera from beneath her golden bangs.

Through years of palace turmoil that ran like a soap opera in the tabloids - while doing serious damage to the institution of England's royal family - she remained highly popular.

She was widely judged a good mother to her two sons, William, the future king, and Harry. She and her sons were photographed at school, with ponies, on ski slopes and gambling in parks. Those with long memories recalled that she was a child-care worker before she became a royal.

And she was widely praised for her charitable works, most recently as a proponent of a worldwide ban on land mines.

It was this crusade that took her recently to Bosnia, but by the time she arrived she was once again in the middle of a press frenzy.

She had found love - that was the latest turn in her remarkable story. Early in August, the British tabloids that lived and died by the latest Diana tidbits had broken a significant new scoop.

The princess was seen aboard the \$32 million yacht of controversial London businessman Mohammed Fayed, in the company of his son, Dodi.

And Diana was "telling friends" - tabloid code for speaking to reporters - about a new love in her life.

Dodi Fayed was "the man who will take me out of one world and into another," Diana was quoted as saying. "I trust him." Fayed, 42, also was killed along with Diana in a car crash in a tunnel



Princess Diana chats with Mirzeta Gabelic, a 15-year-old Bosnian Moslem landmine victim, on August 10 in Sarajevo, where Diana was on a visit to the region as part of her campaign against landmines. (AP)

along the Seine. Her driver may have been trying to elude photographers chasing them.

Big as Di's romance was elsewhere, it is hard to put into non-British terms what a spectacular story it was for England.

Mohammed Fayed, father of Dodi, is perhaps as near an opposite as one could find to Diana's former in-laws. Dodi Fayed was the only son of the Egyptian entrepreneur who swept onto the British stage about the time Diana was marrying Prince Charles and grabbed some of the nation's proudest possessions.

He bought Harrods Ltd., London's greatest department store, and more recently acquired a leasehold on the Paris home of the duke and duchess of Windsor, and will auction off the contents next month at Sotheby's. (The duke of Windsor, uncle to Queen Elizabeth II, started in his own amazing palace tale, abdicating the throne to marry an American divorcee.)

It had begun with such spectacle and seeming perfection. Diana, daughter of an earl, was the picture of the fairy-tale princess when she walked down the aisle of St. Paul's Cathedral in a white gown

with a train pooled behind her on the scarlet carpet.

The archbishop of Canterbury performed her marriage to Charles Philip Arthur George, Prince of Wales, until then the world's most eligible bachelor.

New Zealand's great soprano Kiri Te Kanawa serenaded her. She rode away in a horse-drawn carriage enclosed in glass.

And for a time the Buckingham Palace script played out nicely.

Charles and Diana - people felt so fond of them they called them Chuck and Di - were seen walking on the moors at Balmoral, posing

with royal intimacies snatched from mobile telephones.

The early years of their marriage may, in the eyes of history, be seen as a last triumph for the House of Windsor, the monarchy that has been both a symbol of England's glories as its empire withered and a cash cow for the nation's tourist trade.

For as Diana's marriage crumbled, the stature of the royal family went with it. A biography of Diana by British journalist Andrew Morton detailed a loveless marriage and a suicidal princess. Soon, the British papers were buzzing

with royal intimacies snatched from mobile telephones.

The royal saga will continue - recently the archbishop of Canterbury, the senior clergyman in the Church of England, expressed strong reservations at the idea of a remarried king at the head of the nation's official church.

Her death will supply another ocean of headlines, tell-all books and television interviews. Perhaps all of it will one day give the world Diana as she really was.

More likely, though, she has disappeared forever into the myths of time. (The Washington Post)

World leaders mourn her death

Reactions from world leaders poured in yesterday following Princess Diana's death.

US President Bill Clinton said he and his wife Hillary were "profoundly saddened" by her death. "Hillary and I knew Princess Diana and we were very fond of her. We are profoundly saddened by this tragic event. Our thoughts and prayers tonight are with her family, friends, and especially her children," Clinton said in a statement issued shortly after Diana's death.

In Australia, Prime Minister John Howard expressed shock and said the thoughts of many Australians would be with the two young sons she left behind.

Howard said the crash had ended "the life of a person who held a particular fascination for many people around the world."

In Russia, there were no widespread demonstrations of grief, but some mourners did lay flowers outside the British Embassy in Moscow and President Boris Yeltsin "took to heart" Diana's death, an aide said.

German President Roman Herzog expressed dismay at her sudden death. Herzog sent his condolences in a telegram to Queen Elizabeth. "...With her personal charisma, her courage and above all her impressive engagement in an array of humanitarian causes she won over the people in our country."

World leaders were almost unanimous in expressing similar sentiments, although Iran took the opportunity to lash out once again at the West. Government-run television announced her death in a news bulletin, saying: "One of the elements of moral disgrace in the British court has been killed in a car accident in France."

Diana and Prince Charles separated from each other some time ago following a sensational saga of corruption and moral disgrace," the announcer said, reading against a background of film clips of Diana in an item that lasted less than 30 seconds. (News agencies)

Harrods heir's love affair with Diana shocked UK

By ROBERT WOODWARD

LONDON (Reuters) - Dodi Al Fayed was the son of one of Britain's most controversial men and his love affair with the country's most famous woman, Princess Diana, shocked and fascinated the world.

Al Fayed, 41, was definitely not part of the British establishment which Diana felt had so badly let her down during her 15 years

married to heir to the throne Prince Charles.

A film producer of Egyptian descent with a string of flashy girlfriends and a love of the good life Al Fayed was about as far away from the ascetic, serious Charles as it is possible to get.

But this summer romance straight from the pages of pulp fiction turned to a Greek tragedy in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Since her long drawn-out, painful divorce from Charles, finalized 12 months ago last week, Diana had been careful not to be caught with any male companions, apparently keen to douse down media interest in her every move.

But hardly a day has gone by this month without pictures of

Dodi canoodling with Diana appearing in British newspapers.

Al Fayed, a round man with a ready smile, appeared to enjoy Diana's company as much as she enjoyed his.

"We relaxed... we had a good time," Al Fayed said after one holiday. "We are very good friends."

Al Fayed, the family's eldest son, grew up in Egypt and was educated in Switzerland. His mother, Samira, was the sister of billionaire Adnan Kashoggi.

Mohammed Al Fayed has repeatedly clashed with British authorities, who have refused his requests for a British passport and publicly attacked his business methods.

He contributed to the election

defeat of the Conservative government in the May 1 election with allegations he had paid senior Conservatives to ask questions for him in parliament.

Dodi's family life had been touched repeatedly by tragedy. Both Samira, who separated from her father just months after Dodi's birth, and his grandmother died young. Samira's second husband died in a car crash as did his stepfather and an aunt.

After a short stint in a military college, he became an attaché in the United Arab Emirates embassy in London.

But Al Fayed wanted a faster pace of life and moved to Hollywood, where he used the family's vast fortune to produce or co-produce films like the Oscar-winning *Chariots of Fire* and *Hook*.

He had houses in London, Los Angeles and New York, loved fast cars and had the run of a number of yachts. His father's business empire contained the Harrods luxury store in London.

A frequenter of nightclubs, Al Fayed was linked romantically with several Hollywood stars before meeting Diana.

After his liaison with Diana became public knowledge, a model, Kelly Fisher, claimed he had said he wanted a baby with her and had promised to marry her.

She claimed that Al Fayed had shuttled between her and Diana during one of their Mediterranean holidays.

SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1

The committee called on the prime minister to redirect NIS 270 million budgeted by the Finance Ministry to restoring cuts made in school hours, even if it means delaying implementation of a longer school day in some areas.

Committee chairman Emanuel Zissmann and representatives of parties in the dispute closeted themselves in Zissmann's office for about 90 minutes.

Afterwards, Histadrut Teachers Union Secretary-General Avraham Ben-Shabbat emerged from Zissmann's office, saying he had initiated an agreement with the Education Ministry director-general.

The agreement said that: 1) The 70,000 hours which were cut by order of the director-general's directive from April 1997 will be replaced immediately.

2) As of tomorrow, September 1, all teachers dismissed as a result of these cuts will return to work.

Ben-Shabbat explained that returning teachers to work automatically required restoring cut classroom hours so that they would have enough work.

It took until later last night for an agreement to be reached between the government and the Secondary Schools Teachers Association Association chairman Ran Erez restoring 500 teachers to the system.

National Parents Association officials at first appeared disappointed by the agreements, but

later Moshe Sheinfeld, an Association leader, said they decided to go ahead and support the opening of the school year.

Sheinfeld warned however, that the Association would monitor whether the agreements were being implemented.

In trying to spur the teachers toward reaching agreement, Education Minister Ze'evulun Hammer told the Knesset committee at the start of the meeting: "I see our problem in guaranteeing... that the standard classroom hours not be hurt. This is the main point: that the child not return home from school a moment sooner than he did last year."

"It's all a matter of trust," Hammer said. In Ashdod, 11 secondary schools will not open today because of a dispute over a municipality plan to try to create three special classes of advanced Russian immigrant pupils, opposed by the Secondary School Teachers Association as "racism," according to an association spokeswoman.

In Herzliya, there may be disruptions in the opening of the school year.

The ORT schools in Hatzor and Carmiel will also not open after the technological track there was abandoned.

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With great sorrow we announce the passing, on Saturday, August 30, of our beloved husband, father and grandfather

Rabbi Dr. JOSEPH BABAD

direct descendent of the Minchos Chinuch, Dean of Students, Faculty Bet Midrash Letorah, Skokie, Illinois,

Shiva at 4 Rehov Sorotzkin, Jerusalem

The Babad, Bruckstein and Morduchowitz Families

In deep sorrow and profound grief we announce the untimely death of our beloved husband, father and grandfather

Ambassador ZVI BROSH 77

The funeral will leave today, Monday, September 1, 1997, at 1 p.m. from the Givat Shaul Funeral Parlor.

Shiva at the house of the deceased, 10 Hazon Zion St., Beit Hakerem, Jerusalem.

Audrey Liora Oded, Ilana, Tami, Yael and Gil.

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Princess Diana and Dodi Fayed walk along the French Riviera resort of St. Tropez on August 22. (Reuters)

The people's princess

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

"Wouldn't it have been great if fairy tales were for real. But you know as well as the rest of us that happy endings don't just ride in on the wind."

That was a message sent last year to Princess Diana by one of her tens of thousands of fans on one of the many Internet web sites devoted to her.

It's theme, prophetic in hindsight, could be heard yesterday in streets as far away from her homeland as Tel Aviv.

Diana's tragic end transcended borders and cultures, and Israel was no exception.

Everyone seemed to be mourning the death of Diana. Sad Israelis talked of her grace, beauty and charm, echoing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's apt telegram of condolence to the British people.

Both morning talk programs, *Another Matter* and *It's All Talk* dealt almost exclusively with Lady Di, her life, and the media's disreputable role in her unexpected death.

Israel Radio's evening show *Someone To Talk To* kept up the coverage.

The BBC World Service reported people in Jerusalem "as stunned as anywhere in the world - surprising in a country so occupied with its own problems."

In Gaza, Suha Arafat said "I didn't know her personally, but I felt close to her because of our similar humanitarian concerns. She was a victim of journalists. It's too late now, but I hope they've learned their lesson."

The former nursery school teacher had fired women's imaginations everywhere when she realized the Cinderella fairy tale and married the prince.

But the fairy tale indeed was not to have a happy ending. The princess got divorced and fled the palace. Yet surprisingly her popularity just grew and grew until she became a cultural heroine and an icon.

She was indeed "a princess of the people," as Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair called her yesterday.

World television networks CNN and BBC devoted hours of straight broadcasting to the accident, from Saturday night and all through yesterday. The British nation stood still. Even America went into shock.

In Tel Aviv the British Embassy was closed as usual on Sunday, but Nick Kopeloff, the public relations director of JIA, an organization for British immigrants, said "everyone is in a profound sense of shock over Diana's death."

"It's almost like she wanted to die," the young owner of a watch store in Dizengoff Center said. "She was sick and tired of this life."

"From the moment she married that Prince Charles she didn't have a minute's peace, not one moment's happiness," an older woman in the store responded.

"Lady Di was a tragic heroine: she had a self-destructive streak which drove her to it," said a foreign correspondent.

But Talma Admon, *Ma'ariv's* literary editor, had a different theory: "She was up against bigger, stronger forces. She didn't have a chance from the start. Her death reminds me of the fate of Marilyn Monroe - a female victim in a man's world. When she finally found a man who could envelop her with care and provide for her needs, she was brutally killed."

Her dominant qualities - compassion, empathy, beauty and grace - are irrelevant in this life, with its murderous pace, said Admon. "Her success in picking up the pieces of her life and becoming independent and popular just weren't enough."

"Even finding a path into people's hearts proved insufficient. Today it is all about power, money, control. That includes the moral codes of today's society, which enabled those paparazzi to bound her," Admon said.

"Diana didn't have what it takes, and it killed her."

IN CONTEXT / HERB KEINON

Paparazzi craze not Israeli - yet

Celebrity-hunting photographers, the paparazzi, will - as a result of the accident that killed Princess Diana yesterday - inevitably come under fierce criticism the world over.

Although Israel does not have a large corps of paparazzi who stake out celebrities for candid, preferably compromising, pictures, it does have an extremely aggressive photo press corps that has caused discomfort for more than one celebrity.

No less a paparazzi target than Arnold Schwarzenegger told photographers during a July 1995 visit that he had "never seen more aggressive journalists" anywhere in the world.

The same year, rock star Sinead O'Connor attacked two photographers taking pictures of her leaving the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. She broke their cameras, and tore one man's shirt. Madonna, during her concert tour here in 1993, cursed out photographers waiting for her as she left the Church of Nativity, and her bodyguards reportedly slashed

the tires of waiting photographers.

The most serious incident, however, came in the summer of 1993, when Elton John left the country a few hours after arriving, citing harassment by photographers.

In London, John's press people released a statement saying that even as he was driving back to the airport, "he was followed and harassed by aggressive photographers on motorbikes on the highway itself, thus causing danger to other traffic. To ensure safety and good order, it was decided that Elton John should leave the country."

Brian Hendler, a press photographer here since 1984, did not mince words in criticizing the behavior of some Israeli photographers.

"Sometimes the way the Israel press behaves is pretty disgusting," he said. "They will do anything to get a picture, paparazzi or not. They have no problems sticking cameras in the faces of people at relatives' graves."

Hendler said the aggressiveness in

Israel has gotten worse with the intensifying competition between *Yedioth Aharonot* and *Ma'ariv*. "If *Yedioth* has the picture, *Ma'ariv* has to get it. This type of competition means anything goes," he said.

David Rubinger, winner of the 1997 Israel Prize for photography and a photo-journalist here for some 50 years, said "celebrity hunting is sheer digging into the privacy of human beings who have nothing to do with me. I think it is wrong. Celebrities have every right to privacy. What it boils down to is good taste, nothing else."

Rubinger said the blame, however, rests not only with the photographers, but mainly with newspaper editors who pay "outrageous prices" for the pictures.

"Thankfully in Israel we have not sunk to the level of the paparazzi, but I am not sure that the fierce competition between the papers here will not bring us to that situation," he said.

Rubinger sees no parallel between photographing people in the privacy of their

grief at a cemetery, and stalking celebrities and photographing them in the privacy of their summer homes or on yachts in Europe.

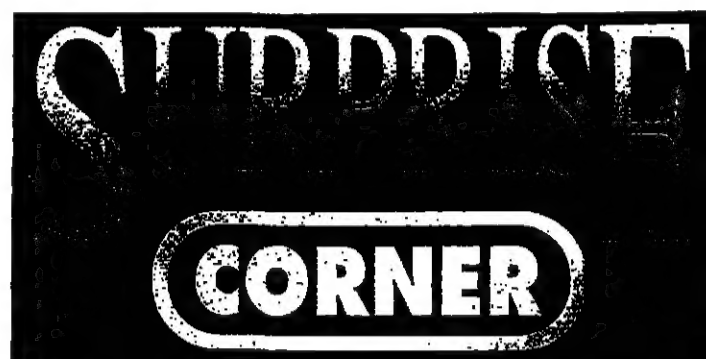
"It is not the same type of bad taste," Rubinger said. "This country mourns people everyday, people who supposedly fell for the nation. The grief of that family is not private grief, nobody is sure they won't be in same situation tomorrow. This grief is a national disaster."

Nati Shohat, one of the partners of Flash 90, a photo agency that services most of the country's dailies, defended Israeli photographers, saying that they were not like paparazzi because they do not ambush people, and that the person being photographed always knows that their picture is being taken.

Furthermore, Shohat said, pictures of Israeli celebrities in compromising poses are nonexistent.

"When have you ever seen a picture of Shlomo Artzi in the nude, or in an embrace," he said. "There is no market for that here."

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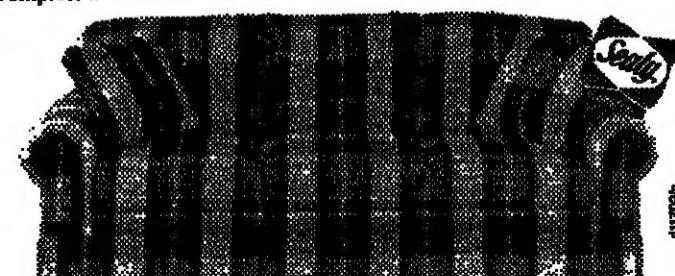
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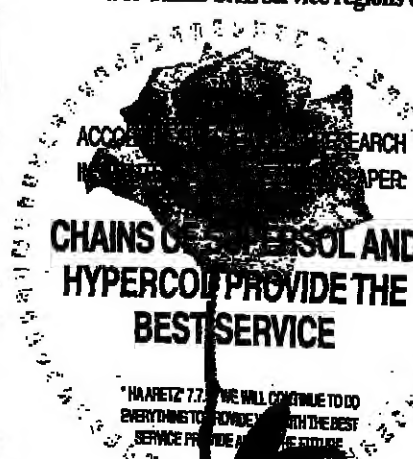
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Israel, Jordan sign airport pact

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Israel and Jordan put a high profile on an agreement signing yesterday to land a trial run of Israeli planes at Akaba Airport, with each country sending a minister to the ceremony.

The reason was not hard to find. At a time when the peace process is at a virtual standstill on all fronts, the agreement marked a small, but perceivable step towards cooperation.

"It is the only show in town," said an Israeli official at the airport who asked not to be identified. The memorandum, whose signing was delayed over disagreements about how to handle security for Israeli passengers, was signed by Transport Ministry Director-General Nahum Langendahl and Captain Jasser Zayyal, the head of Jordanian Civil Aviation.

But their bosses, Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy and Jordanian Transport Minister Bassem Sakker, were on hand for a news conference.

Levy said that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Jordan's King Hussein had set a date for the signing, forcing negotiators to meet a deadline.

He said the memorandum provides for passengers flying to Eilat to land at the Akaba airfield and be taken by bus to the Eilat Airport terminal, for customs and border control.

Israeli security guards will escort the buses to and from Israel, while joint Israeli-Jordanian teams will handle security in Akaba, Levy said.

The degree of Jordanian sensitivity to having Israelis handle security in their country was palpable. A Jordanian journalist asked Sakker what would happen if an armed Israeli were to attack Jordanians.



The Jordanian and Israeli transport ministers, Bassem Sakker (left) and Yitzhak Levy, shake hands after the signing of a memorandum for the joint use of Akaba Airport.

"We are working on this as a joint project. There will be security for both sides," Sakker told her.

Currently the flights will be handled by Arkia and El Al Airlines from Tel Aviv's Sde Dov Airport or Ben-Gurion Airport, but not from Jerusalem's Atarot Airport, which Jordan doesn't recognize.

Even yesterday's flight carrying Levy and an entourage of officials and journalists touched down at Ben-Gurion before continuing on to Akaba.

Transport ministry officials said that the flights would begin with a few a week and would gradually increase in number over a four-

month trial period.

If the project succeeds, Levy said, Israel will build a terminal on its side of the border, next to the Akaba landing field.

Levy said the area could attract hundreds of thousands of tourists. Sakker said that joint use of the airport was part of Jordan's plans to

turn Akaba into a regional center.

It was a little unclear whether passengers bound for Eilat would have the option of heading to Jordan rather than Israel.

Levy said passengers could choose to visit either country, while other Israeli officials said they would have to enter Israel.

PM: We differ with US on security

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu indicated yesterday to the cabinet that his concept of security was different than that of US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who visits next week.

After the cabinet session, ministers in charge of security affairs meeting behind closed doors decided to gradually ease a closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip imposed after the July 30 Mahaneh Yehuda bombing. They resolved to follow the situation on a day-to-day basis.

Briefing the cabinet on his latest telephone conversations with Albright, Netanyahu charged that the Palestinian Authority has not fulfilled promises to crack down on terrorism.

An authoritative source noted that two Palestinians suspected of being behind bus bombings in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in February and March last year, have not been arrested.

The suspects were identified as Mohammed Deif and Mohieddin Sharaf, and dubbed successors to the late so-called engineer or Hamas bomb mastermind, Yehia Ayash.

Albright evidently believes sufficient progress has been made on the critical security issue to justify her trip. She had told Washington's National Press Club on Aug. 7 that she would head to

the Middle East provided progress was made on security issues.

The source said that since efforts made to step up security contacts with the Palestinians after the Mahaneh Yehuda bombing, there has been only "spot cooperation," mainly to prevent attacks just before or during the Albright visit.

"There is a conflict" between the US and Israel on the terrorist problem, the source continued.

Albright is due in Israel Sept. 10 for two days of talks.

In deciding to ease the closure, ministers left it in the IDF's hands to decide at what rate they would increase the number of Palestinians they let through roadblocks, Israel Radio reported.

Netanyahu denied to the cabinet that his attorney, Yitzhak Molcho, had drawn up a compromise on the Har Homa and settlement issue.

Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon wasn't at the meeting as he was convalescing from a torn tendon he sustained on his farm this weekend.

The cabinet also approved an agreement with Uzbekistan to further cultural, scientific and educational cooperation, and an accord with Moldova to waive visa requirements for diplomatic passport holders.

The issue of the missing Yemenite children was also raised but a full discussion was postponed for another meeting.

HOUNDED

Continued from Page 1

And so on, went the myth weavers, as they did JFK.

Most heroes of yore were men. It is to the credit of the 1990s that the world's two most genuinely famous people have been women—Mother Teresa, the saint, and Diana, the people's princess.

All men love a beautiful woman—that is not unusual. What was new about Diana was that she became the beautiful woman that women too could love and admire and, for a change, even identify with.

No ever-after. Every little girl's favorite fairy tale has always been Cinderella. Diana heard the fairy tale and walked the fairy walk. And then she lived its raw sexist fallacies, and somehow struggled on to create a post-modern, post happy-ever-after fairy tale for a fascinated world.

She was the icon for the '90s woman. She showed women that even if you grow up and marry a prince in a palace, life could be as unfair, wretched and insecure as if you married a drunken redneck. The young "Shy Di" who just wanted "to be a good wife" lost the prince, the palace, the chance to become queen of England. She settled instead to be "the queen of people's hearts."

Although she didn't exactly come from a peasant's cottage, Diana's background was middle-class modest. At six she heard the sound that haunted her for life—her mother's departing footsteps when her parents' marriage broke up.

She had a mediocre education and found work in child-care. It was the path of a million nice little English girls of no great talent waiting for Mr. Right to arrive.

Frog mode. What did arrive was a right royal Mr. Wrong. All at once she seemed to have everything—money, clothes, two sons, palaces, even a throne in the offing. But what about happiness? Wasn't that part of the Prince Charming deal?

Not any more. The prince reverted to frog mode. The marriage, said Diana, was "a bit crowded" with Camilla Parker-Bowles there too. She became hysterical, bulimic, ever more humiliated. She and the world heard from a bugged phone that the prince of Wales would rather be his mistress's tampion than Diana's husband. And when at last she succumbed to an extra-marital affair, that handsome bounder also turned

out to be a rat who sold her intimacy for a bagful of money.

No wonder women around the world winced and cried for her. This was no longer the fairy tale but *The Wives' Tale*, writ large and ugly and familiar. Even a beautiful woman can be cruelly abandoned by her husband.

Enough already. But Diana began the long march back to dignity, inspiring that brand of '90s woman who at last has enough of all the crap. Supported by her love for her two boys, she worked out, stepped out and finally recognized that her heart, not her head, was her greatest asset.

When she threw herself into charity work, it was not another "angle." This was the Diana the dedicated nursery teacher grown up at last. When she hugged an AIDS patient and joked "there is no known risk factor in a hug" she did more to change British public attitudes to the disease in five minutes than five years of government awareness campaigns had done.

The charity Help the Aged reported her patronage increased their income fourfold in one year. She adopted causes no other celeb would touch with a barge pole and touched them with the magic wand of media attention. Who ever heard of the anti-land mines campaign before Diana walked among the minefields and the maimed in Angola and Bosnia as the cameras swarmed around her and the crippled children?

Live by the sword, die by the sword. Diana charmed and wooed the celebrity-hungry media when she needed public sympathy for herself or support for her hopeless causes. Yet she loathed and feared them and only last week said she would flee Britain because of them, were it not for her sons.

Her fears were prophetic. It is a day when we in the more respectable branches of the media must stand up and condemn this monster that has grown in our midst—the paparazzi hyena pack.

We cannot even say that Diana died in dignity. She literally was hounded to death by the yelping pack, rabid in their money-frenzy, as they continued to snap and flash at the crushed bodies in the car. Journalism has at last sunk as low as it can in the cesspit to become a pack of ugly men hounding a beautiful woman to death. The profession has stepped on its own publicity land mine and is maimed.

It will take more than the myth of the princess to purge its shame.

Fourth brushfire victim buried

By BAT SHEVA TSUR and Him

Hundreds of mourners attended the burial yesterday of 19-year-old St-Sgt. Oren Zarif, one of the four soldiers killed in a brushfire while on active duty in south Lebanon.

MK Efraim Sneh, a neighbor of the Zarifs in Herzliya, eulogized Zarif as a hero, thanking him "for what you were, for what you did."

Sneh heaped praises on Zarif and his army buddies serving in Lebanon.

"You don't ask 'until when?' or 'when will this be over?' Up there you grit your teeth, wipe away your tears of sweat, get briefed and then wait until dark to head to the wadi, whether the one that burned or any other wadi, simply for the sake of protecting your home," Sneh said.

St-Sgt. Zarif's funeral had been delayed so an uncle who was abroad could attend.

President Ezer Weizman visited the families of the other three fallen soldiers from last Thursday's tragedy, who were buried on Friday.

At the home of Sgt. Shimon Yadag, 21, in Sderot, Weizman assessed that Israel would have to continue fighting in Lebanon until there were peace talks with Syria.

Weizman praised Yadag.

"Shimon was a hero. I heard this from his commanders," he said.

Yadag, an Ethiopian immigrant who lost his father in Ethiopia, had volunteered to stay on with his unit over the weekend although he was entitled to a monthly leave.

Relatives said Yadag never told

them he was serving in Lebanon so they wouldn't worry about him.

Earlier Weizman visited the family of a third soldier, St-Sgt. Ro'i Shukrun, of Jerusalem. Shukrun's grandfather was a battalion commander in the Golan brigade in the 1960's, and Weizman recalled that he was outstanding. Both Shukrun's parents also served in Golan.

His mother told of how Ro'i, who wanted to become a doctor, had volunteered to serve in a combat unit.

In Or Akiva, Weizman visited the home of Sgt. Oshri Schwartz, who died in the fire at age 19. He too had volunteered for Golan, after cajoling his mother to sign permission for him to do combat duty. Her first husband was killed in the Yom Kippur War.

Levy off to Canada tomorrow

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Foreign Minister David Levy leaves tomorrow on a quick trip to Canada in advance of US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's visit here on September 10.

He is expected to tell Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Israel's interest in working with Albright to move

the peace process forward, a ministry spokesman said.

Levy's first stop will be Toronto for the dedication of a synagogue and educational center for Canada's Sephardic Jewish communities.

He will deliver the keynote speech at the ceremony which is expected to be attended by about 2,000 people.

DIANA

Continued from Page 1

British Prime Minister Tony Blair was waiting at the airport. Diana's coffin, draped in the Royal standard, was carried to a hearse by eight pall-bearers in a low-key, silent ceremony disturbed only by the wind.

Diana's death brought calls for curbs on intrusion into the privacy of celebrities.

Earl Spencer, Diana's brother, said he always believed the press would kill his sister. He declared that every proprietor and editor to have paid for "exploitative" photographs of her "has blood on his hands today."

The beauty that captivated millions endured in death.

"She wanted to die beautiful... her face was preserved," said a witness who saw Diana dead in a room at Paris's Salpêtrière Hospital.

French surgeons had desperately tried to save her life, opening her shattered chest to sew a ruptured vein and massage her failed heart.

But at 4 a.m. Paris time they conceded defeat and told the world the terrible news.

Charles, whose 15-year marriage to Diana ended in divorce last year, woke their sons, the princes William, 15, and Harry, 12, at the royal estate in Balmoral, Scotland, to break the news of their mother's death.

The boys were devoted to their mother and were her only happy reminders of her attachment to the royal family.

Al Fayed, heir to a business empire that includes Harrods store in London and the Ritz in Paris, died in the wreck of the car which was crumpled like an accordion.

So did the driver, a Ritz security guard. A bodyguard was injured. Police held seven press photographers at the scene and investigated the crash as a possible case of manslaughter.

Diana and Al Fayed, 41, had been the focus of a media frenzy for weeks since photographs showed them embracing on a Mediterranean holiday. It appeared Diana, the world's most photographed woman, had finally

found a man who had taught her to love again.

The death of the woman who said she wanted to be "Queen of People's Hearts" provoked a wave of grief around the globe.

But Britons' grief for Diana was tinged with anger against a media that was held to have hounded her—"Bastards" screamed a motorist at photographers outside Buckingham Palace—and pity for her sons.

She had been due home yesterday after her holiday and had been expected to see William and Harry at her Kensington Palace home.

Diana's death stunned Israel's cabinet and stirred Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to send his condolences in the name of the Israeli government to the people of the United Kingdom and the royal family.

"Israel, like the rest of the world, was shocked by the death of a young woman who diligently heralded the world's children," Netanyahu said, noting that she represented her country with honor and dignity.

In a telegram to Prime Minister

Tony Blair, Netanyahu asked that he convey to the royal family the sympathy of the people of Israel and its government. "The princess's grace and charm were exceptional," he said.

"Great Britain and the whole world have lost an outstanding person whose life was dedicated to serving them and advancing their welfare. Her loss is felt by peoples all over the world," President Ezer Weizman said in a cable of condolences to Queen Elizabeth, paying tribute to Diana's humanitarian work.

"On behalf of the people of Israel, my wife and myself, I extend to Your Majesty, to the dear children, Prince William and Prince Harry, and to the royal family, our deep sympathy and heartfelt condolences," Weizman added.

The president met the princess of Wales during the 50th anniversary celebration of VE-Day.

British Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks yesterday expressed the Jewish community's "sense of shock and grief."

"A dazzling light has gone out of

public life," he said. "For the young especially, the princess captured the mood of a generation."

Referring to her high-profile campaigns for the homeless, AIDS sufferers and victims of land mines, he noted that she had "a natural rapport with the victims of today's world."

"Her empathy with the sick, the injured, the hungry and the homeless was transparent and moving," he said, "and at times she showed great courage in championing their cause."

He hoped that her children would "find solace and comfort in the memory of one who touched the hearts of millions throughout the world."

Sacks has asked that special prayers be said for Princess Diana in all British synagogues next Shabbat.

Ambassador Moshe Raviv expressed the "deep sorrow" of Israel and sent his condolence to the family on "the loss of an outstanding personality."

Jay Bushinsky and Bat Sheva Tsur contributed to this report

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BASEL

Continued from Page 1

The current controversy is over dormant Jewish assets in Swiss banks or the wrangling over the administration of the humanitarian fund established six months ago with SF 100 million from the three major Swiss banks.

However, Judith Stamm, president of the national parliament, said this is the time for the Swiss to confront their war-era past, including its role in promoting the J stamp on Jewish passports. "We want to correct the mistakes of the past if that is still possible," she said.

Stamm, who represented the Swiss government, also referred to political events in the Middle East, saying that Switzerland wished Israel well and knew it faced difficult decisions, but should "give peace a chance."

President Arnold Koller and Foreign Minister Flavio Cotti, who did not attend the centennial events, are expected to receive the Knesset delegation, led by Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, today in Bern.

Avraham Burg, head of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization, gave a speech that was similar to the "Zionist" address of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. "We have a new enemy

with no face, with no ideology, with no troops, no organizations," Burg said, speaking in English. "Our new enemy is assimilation."

The Zionist agenda 100 years after Theodor Herzl's congress, he said, was the struggle for spiritual survival and for Jewish education.

Herzl was an innocent when he said, "This country shall have no enemies," said Tichon, speaking in Hebrew. Instead, Tichon said, "The Arab nations have made every effort to destroy the Zionist cause from the start."

Yet, he said, "Even with all the possibilities for peace, we must at every moment be ready to repel our enemies."

3-D: Right back at ya

By SHAI TSUR

Three-dimensional films act as the carnival sideshows of the cinematic world. The show itself may look threadbare and tacky, but that doesn't matter. The spectacle draws the crowds in. Since they first appeared in the early 1950s — one of many tricks movie makers came up with to compete with the popularity of television — 3-D films have appeared at various points throughout film history, offering audiences a chance to be thrilled.

Local audiences can enjoy the best and worst of this genre at the Parliament Arts Festival of Three-Dimensional Film which runs through September 5 at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque. The festival features a range of 3-D movies through its various periods. Included are the "classics" of the 1950s to the self-referential and campy spectacles of recent years.

According to festival producer Assaf Ashkenazi, the idea to screen a series of 3-D films came up when Parliament Arts decided to stage a unique film event in Israel.

Because of the rarity of these films and the technical issues involved in screening them, the idea proved quite daunting. "A lot of people said we wouldn't be able to pull it off," Ashkenazi said. "But we took the project and began looking for ways to get the material." The project took nearly a year. By searching the Internet, Ashkenazi and his crew found leads to a distributor of 3-D films in California and to Richard Haines, director of *Run for Cover*, the most recent cinematic 3-D film and the first in 12 years.

"We wanted to build a program with enough variety in it that it could be termed a retrospective," he said. "We put in things from classics like *House of Wax* and *Dial M for Murder* to the movies of the '60s and '70s which best fit the description of cult films." The 3-D version of Alfred Hitchcock's 1954 *Dial M for Murder* serves as one of the festival's highlights. Although Hitchcock originally shot the movie in 3-D, it was distributed mainly in flat-screen format and has rarely been screened in three dimensions. Director Haines served as the festival's guest of honor, introducing

Run for Cover. Released late last year, the film stars former TV *Batman* star Adam West in a campy spectacle about terrorists attacking New York. The film also features cameo appearances by several New York political figures such as Ed Koch and Al Sharpton.

Ashkenazi says the festival's organizers faced numerous technical challenges in mounting the retrospective. One of the biggest problems was choosing from among 30 different formats for 3-D movies. "We wanted to go with the system that provides the best effects with glasses that don't strain the eyes," he said.

Eventually, the festival organizers brought in a special screen and projector lenses, as well as 3-D glasses, which also proved difficult to find.

According to Ashkenazi, Haines provided the organizers with much technical help. "Richard was wonderful. The man came here and sat down with us and explained how all this works. He held 3-D workshops for our crew, explaining how to keep the effects in frame and in focus." Despite generally sloppy production values and grade-Z acting, 3-D films have managed to persist for over 40 years.

Ashkenazi credits their inherent spectacle for this. "I think the gimmick is the thing that draws the crowd," he said. "I don't think you could count any of these films as a cinematic masterpiece. They are fun films where you go in to the theater to enjoy the effects. They won't change your life, but you go in and are impressed."

Ashkenazi says he likes the films that are meant to be seen in 3-D. A good example is the 1981 piece *Comin' At Ya*, whose paper-thin plot serves mostly as an excuse to have things jump out at the audience. Ashkenazi points out, however, that the festival has a little bit for everyone, including Hitchcock buffs.

Despite a general waning in 3-D moviemaking in recent years, the genre is far from dead. Persistent but unconfirmed rumors have it that the Coen brothers are considering creating a three-dimensional piece. In the meantime, Ashkenazi says the tremendous feedback and sold-out showings for the festival prove that the demand for good old-fashioned spectacle remains.



'House of Wax,' starring Vincent Price, was Hollywood's first serious attempt to make a 3-D movie.

MOVIE REVIEW

A movie to 'Hyde' from

By ADINA HOFFMAN

Dr. Jekyll & Ms. Hyde is a gender-bending, modern-dress and purportedly comic rethinking of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic novel about the upstanding scientist who concocts a potion that transmogrifies him into his villainous double, the walking, talking embodiment of all his own darkest impulses. This time around, a smooth-faced young perfume developer, Dr. Richard Jacks (Tim Daly), a direct descendant of the "real" Dr. Jekyll, starts fiddling with the estrogen content in his great-grandpa's formula and soon enough sprouts breasts.

Helen Hyde (Sean Young), the oversexed, conniving shrew of a career woman he becomes, wastes no time in plotting a way to take over Dr. Jacks' entire being — body, mind and soul. If she has her way he'll remain female forever. Needless to say, a broad slapstick battle ensues for control of his/her chromosomes, and various elaborate computer effects are used to show him morphing into her and vice versa. Anatomical jokes abound, as do a host of disconcerting flip-flops between the genders. Dark mustaches, long fingernails and sexu-

al organs appear and vanish before our eyes with unsettling regularity.

The Jekyll-Hyde format is, of course, nothing new on screen (in

DR. JEKYLL
& MS. HYDE

Directed by David Price. Screenplay by Tim John & Oliver Butcher and William Davies & William Osborne. Suggested by Robert Louis Stevenson's novel *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde*. 90 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.

With Sean Young, Tim Daly, Lysette Anthony, Stephen Tobolowsky and Harvey Fierstein.

just the past few years, *The Mask*, *The Nutty Professor*, *Mary Reilly* and to some degree *Multiplicity* have all toyed with the same outline). While this latest transvestite version does contain some of the oddest and most perverse twists to date on the basic theme of Good vs. Evil — or ego vs. id — struggling

inside one person, the movie is far from the radical rethinking of gender roles the filmmakers seem jokingly to be attempting.

"Inside every man there is a woman" is the hip "message" to which the script pays lip service. What this apparently feminist formulation overlooks, however, is the ravaging misogynistic arc of the story. After all, Dr. Jacks spends the better part of the film trying to kill the woman inside him. And we're meant to applaud him for doing so: as played by Young (who has, in fact, always suggested an especially fine-boned drag queen), Helen Hyde is a totally despicable cliché of a she-devil, a homicidal vamp with broad shoulders and good legs, whose main mission in life is to castrate her creator. She's not a believably ambitious woman, so much as a man's fantasy/nightmare of an ambitious woman, hellbent on domination.

Loosen up, some readers may argue, this is a comedy — and screwball comedies, from *I Was a Male War Bride* and *Some Like It Hot* to *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, have always relied on the blurring and even the stereotyping of both genders. True enough. And the precise problem with a film like



Richard Jacks (Tim Daly) undergoes his first metamorphosis.

Dr. Jekyll & Ms. Hyde rests with its aggressive comic approach: the crude sexual gags and "playfully" violent physical situations dreamed up by director David Price and his team of screenwriters are notable only for their extreme hostility, and

their tacit insistence on the dangers of mixing masculine and feminine urges. Here, then, is where the real split personality comes in. Behind its light-hearted, just-kidding facade, *Dr. Jekyll* is one harsh, conflicted film.

An Austrian 'Porgy and Bess'

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The focus of the Bregenz Festival, in the small Austrian city at the western edge of the country, sandwiched between Switzerland and Germany on Lake Constance, is the stage on which the annual opera production is presented. The stage is on the lake. As the directors of the festival try to make an impact with each production, every opera remains on this sea stage for two years before the set is destroyed, paving the way for a new production.

Operas in Bregenz are presented without an intermission before a crowd of approximately 6,000 a night, many of whom arrive at the so-called theater in large boats from the adjoining cities and resorts on the lake. One boat after another docks by the stage and brings the spectators who like opera and, even more so, enjoy a great show. Each of the productions is indeed a show, and larger than life at that, but not just the

sake of spectacle. Productions in Bregenz also have very clear social messages.

Four years ago, director David Pountney and designer Stefanos Lazaridis presented a production of Verdi's *Nabucco* that became a very clear history of the Jewish people, replete with Holocaust connotations that sent shivers down the spine of the German/Austrian-dominated audience. Two years ago, Pountney and Lazaridis returned with Beethoven's *Fidelio* in a stunning production that had very clear hints of a dictatorship regime and which, like *Nabucco*, ended with its collapse and the triumph of good over evil.

This year, renowned German director Gotz Friedrich came to present Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. An interesting choice. An opera written by a Jewish composer, capturing the essence of the black minority in the US, presented in a locale that several decades ago saw both Jews and blacks as personae

non grata.

This *Porgy and Bess* was a grand production that had a lot to say about today's society without getting into didactic details. Catfish Row changed its locale and found itself in the shadow of a huge freeway which has been crushed in the middle, something like Los Angeles after the earthquake. And thus, by the lake and beneath the highway which leads to nowhere, scores of happy people lived in seemingly peaceful harmony. They play, they dance and sing, they play dice, they fish, and they know exactly what they want in life even when they can't afford it. These are happy folk living in a small community adorned with graffiti and two reminders of a better and richer world. One is the crushed highway; the other is a huge airline advertisement above the highway. It reads "Somebody up there likes you." Up where exactly, and whom do they like are questions neither opera nor production even tried to answer.

This gigantic set was created by

Hans Schavernoch and enhanced by the colorful and uniquely designed costumes of Sue Willmington. Friedrich's direction focused more on large scenes than on characterization, and he managed to wow the audience with several such moments, especially in the storm that hits the small community and burns part of it. Regular Bregenz audiences, who usually do not accept a production without a fire-cracker display in it, had to settle for real fire, which occasionally seemed to almost to swallow the audience. It was frightening, it was authentic, it was the real thing.

It is hard to talk about musical refinements in a production in which the sound reaches the audience through a massive loudspeaker system. That said, the orchestra was vivacious, playing Gershwin Afro jazz rhythms with enthusiasm, backed by an ensemble of steel drummers on stage which added to the overall flavor of the show. Among the extensive cast, Donnie Ray Albert was a first-rate Porgy,

not with a shabby goat cart as one usually expects, but with a modern vehicle and crutches to walk on stage. The real star of the production was Cynthia Haymon as Bess, encompassing with her large and colorful voice and incredible dramatic abilities the entire gamut of emotions in her powerful and sincere presentation — everything from love to hate, agony to ecstasy, hope to despair, spite to elation.

Visitors to Bregenz can also enjoy first-class productions of relatively unknown operas in the indoor theater by the open stage. This year it was Anton Rubinstein's *The Demon*, which rendered a powerful musical presentation in a rather disappointing and boring production. Next year it will be Montemazzi's *L'amore dei tre re*.

Porgy and Bess returns to Bregenz next summer (July 17 to August 18, 1998) with tickets (NIS 80 to NIS 400) going on sale on October 1. It is definitely worth the trip. You can order tickets by calling the box office at 00-43-5574-4076.

NEWS

of the muse

Israeli children's shows beamed to US

Educational TV is exporting five of its most popular children's programs to a US cable channel beamed at expatriate Israelis and the US Jewish community. The shows are *Parpar Nehmad* (Pretty Butterfly), *Erev Hadash* (A New Evening), *Bli Sodo!* (No Secrets), *Tik Tikshoret* (Media File) and *Kesher Mishpahi* (Family Connection). They will be screened simultaneously on the East and West coasts.

Helen Kaye

Tel Aviv Cinematheque previews documentaries

Four new documentaries to be screened on Channel 8 over the winter will have their premieres at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque next weekend. They are *The Jerusalem Quartet*, about four young string players; *Now ... Everything's Angels* about sculptor Ya'akov Dorchin; *Maket and Arkadi* about the friendship between a Russian and an Ethiopian immigrant; and *Amos Gutman*, about the celebrated filmmaker.

Helen Kaye

Representing Israel in China and Poland

The Israel Ballet will tour three cities in China in October as part of that country's international opera and ballet festival. The company will take the full-length *Cinderella* by artistic director Berta Yampolsky, as well as her *Harmonium*, *Balanchine's* *Symphony in C* and one other work to Beijing, Shandu and Chenzin. The tour is being funded by the Israeli and Chinese governments.

Kiddush, Shmuel Hasfari's bitter play of a family torn apart by religion, will represent Israel at the Lublin Festival in Poland between October 8 and 12. The Beit Lessin production will have a benefit gala at ZOA House September 11 to help finance the trip. This is the first time Beit Lessin has represented Israel at an international festival.

Helen Kaye

Jazz at the Tel Aviv and Israel Museums

It's the seventh season of jazz at the museums but with a little difference. The organizers have put the focus on young up-and-coming musicians. The musical directors are saxophonist Walter Blanding and jazz writer Yossi Mar-Haim, who are presenting half a year of New York jazzpersons starting with trumpeter Marlon Jordan and singer Miles Griffith, who's sung with Wynton Marsalis. They're coming in November with a Salute to the Cotton Club, Harlem's famed nightclub of the '20s and '30s. They're followed by the Wycliffe Gordon and Ron Westray (trombonists) Sextet, Louis Hayes (drummer) Quintet who played with Oscar Peterson, singer Vanessa Rubin, bassist Reginald Veal with Loston Harris on piano playing Coltrane, ending with the Eric Reed (piano) Trio. A season ticket costs NIS 480. Discounts for former subscribers and museum members.

Helen Kaye

Abu Ghosh tickets go on sale

Tickets for the 12th Abu Ghosh Vocal Music Festival (October 22-25) are already on sale and going fast. Music director Hanna Tzur has concocted a magical program of 16 concerts featuring such gems as the Rossini *Stabat Mater*, Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*, motets by Poulenc, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Saint-Saens's *Christmas Oratorio*, the Villa-Lobos *Missa*, and many other choral compositions. The best local singers and choirs participate in this biannual choral delight, as well as the Hanover Boys' Choir and a few other visiting musicians.

Michael Ajzenstadt

US posting for Israeli conductor

American-born Israeli conductor Steven Sloane, the music director of the Bochum Symphony Orchestra in Germany with which he has won a prestigious German award for Best Programming, was appointed music director of the Spoleto Festival in the US. The conductor, who leads opera productions and concerts all over the world, also works regularly in Israel, where for many years he was the music director of the Tel Aviv Vocal Music Festival. Sloane will be in Israel November 30 and December 1 to lead the Israel Chamber Orchestra in a program of works by Mendelssohn, Ben-Zion Orgad and Oded Zehavi, the latter a new work for three alto singers as soloists: Mira Zakai, Edna Prochnik and Sloane's own significant other, Natasha Petrinski.

Michael Ajzenstadt

Poretzky to Norma's rescue

Jerusalem mezzo-soprano Susanna Poretzky flew to Stockholm last week to join the Royal Swedish Opera season opening production of *Norma*. Poretzky, replacing an ailing colleague, sings the role of Adalgisa, the Druid priestess who falls in love with the Roman proconsul Pollione, who already fathered Norma's two children. Poretzky returns to Israel in time to open the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra season, September 25, singing the solo role in Mahler's third symphony. However, she had to cancel her performances with the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba in the title role of Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri* (September 13, 16) and will be replaced by Galina Malinsky.

Michael Ajzenstadt

Is George Harrison an old fogey?

They may revere and try to emulate the Beatles, but chart-busting Oasis doesn't impress George Harrison. He'd rather get out his old Bob Dylan records.

To one of the former Fab Four, the younger quintet is "not very interesting." Nor are U2 or Texas, for that matter, he says. "It's nice if you're 14 years old," the 54-year-old Harrison told the French daily *Le Figaro*. "I prefer to listen to Dylan." Besides, today's musicians are a bunch of "egocentrics," Harrison says. "Will anyone remember U2 in 30 years?" Harrison says. "Will anyone remember U2 in 30 years? I doubt it. And the Spice Girls? I doubt it. The advantage they have is you can look at them and cut off the sound." As for the Beatles, "there are now whole generations of fans, from seven to 77 years old. That assures me and proves that the group has meaning and still lasts." Harrison was in Paris to help promote the latest album by India's Ravi Shankar, *Songs of India*, produced by Harrison. (AP)

Geena Davis and Renny Harlin call it quits

Geena Davis and her second husband, Finnish director Renny Harlin, are calling it quits after four years of marriage.

The actress filed for divorce Tuesday, citing irreconcilable differences. The couple broke up in April. They had no children. Davis and Harlin married on September 18, 1993, when the bride's career was riding high on the film hits *Thelma and Louise* and *A League of Their Own*. She also won an Academy Award for her supporting role in 1988's *The Accidental Tourist*. She teamed up with Harlin in box-office bombs *Cuthbert Island* in 1995 and *The Long Kiss Goodnight* in 1996. (AP)

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Albright's unheeded advice

The US State Department is openly trying to lower expectations for Secretary of State Madeline Albright's first visit to the region, pointing out that she is not "a magician." It is one thing for Albright to resist shouldering the entire burden for breaking the current Israeli-Palestinian deadlock; quite another for her to allow Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to scrap the principled approach to the peace process she so recently put forth.

In her landmark speech on US policy toward the Middle East on August 6, Albright called for "waging war on terror." In case there was any doubt as to her meaning, Albright spelled it out: "identifying and seizing arms caches... arresting and prosecuting those involved in planning, financing, supplying or abetting terrorism... [and] doing everything possible to create a moral atmosphere in which advocacy of violence and terror withers away."

Within days, Albright had her answer from Arafat — not only would there be no wave of arrests like in March 1996 (a precedent she mentioned explicitly), but he convened a "unity conference" with Hamas and Islamic Jihad, the very groups that were supposed to be quaking in their boots from an Arafat-led crackdown. The pictures of Arafat kissing leaders of terrorist groups could not have been a more in-your-face rejection of the US demands for a "relentless" struggle against terrorism.

In her speech, Albright conditioned her Mideast swing on "some progress on security issues." Though there have been some inconclusive three-way (US-Israeli-Palestinian) meetings on security issues, the "unity conference" made a mockery of Albright's statement that "there can be no winks, no double standards, no double meanings, and with respect to the imprisonment of terrorists, no revolving doors." This time, Arafat did not even bother with the revolving door; he simply failed to arrest the major suspects.

Albright can try and fudge the issue of whether there has been progress or not as much as she likes, but the fundamental reality will not change: the US demanded that the Palestinians take the terrorist option off the table; Arafat responded by nailing it smack in the middle, for all to see.

One might argue that Arafat is planning to crackdown on terror, but he is holding out for Israeli concessions first. But Albright herself rejected this approach, stating that "there is no room for using security cooperation as leverage in a negotiation." Albright also said that there can be "no moral equivalency between suicide bombers and bulldozers, between killing innocent people and building houses." Both these principles have been reflected in US policy by

introducing at least a fig leaf of separation between security cooperation and the concessions that are being asked of Israel. The plan has been, first the Palestinians fight terror, then Israel implements some form of a settlement freeze. This sort of separation in time between the two halves is a fig leaf, because it does not really change the asymmetry of the deal on the table: the Palestinians agree to stop violating their fundamental commitments in Oslo, while Israel agrees to a new concession to be added on top of Oslo.

If Albright gives in on the Palestinians moving on their part of the bargain before she arrives, even the fig leaf of the sequential approach is gone. In its place, Albright is reportedly planning to create political pressure on both sides by appealing directly to Israeli and Palestinian public opinion.

The clear implication of the go-over-the-heads-of-the-leaders approach is that majorities on both sides want peace, while the leaders are being obstinate. The problem is that imposing even-handed pressure does not turn a lopsided deal into a fair one. More importantly, the deal violates the fundamental principle Albright herself enunciated of not allowing security cooperation to leverage Israeli concessions.

There are two steps to getting out of this jam. One is for Albright to tell Arafat that, despite the announcement of a date for her visit, the trip will be postponed unless he takes the serious, visible steps against terrorism that the US has demanded. This would be a high-stakes, confrontational approach, but if the US is serious about ending the see-saw approach to fighting terror, it is the way to go. The alternative is to wait and try the same thing after the next blow up, after US credibility has been reduced by not sticking to its guns.

The second step is to expect from the Palestinians something outside of security cooperation (which would be taken as a given) in exchange for the concessions demanded of Israel. The logical choice here would be the postponement of the second redeployment by six months so it coincides with the third and final redeployment. The result would be that both Israel and the Palestinians would be giving up part of their Oslo-granted ability to improve their territorial position in anticipation of a final status agreement. As a bonus, another potential source of breakdown in the process would be eliminated.

A few weeks ago, Secretary Albright could not have laid out more clearly and cogently the centrality of the fight against terror to the survival of the peace process. She was right then and her argument still holds true today. Now, if only she would follow her own advice.

The good news

YOSEF GOELL

I wish to beg your indulgence if I depart for this once from the regular fare of any self-respecting Israeli columnist who blanches at the very thought of commenting on anything but doom and gloom and the next imminent catastrophe. Those who are hooked on bad news and who are genetically programmed to run from good news as from fire, are officially excused from reading any further.

Those hooked on bad news are officially excused from reading any further

I have had little to do with hospitals throughout my half-century's sojourn in this country, except through my wife who was in charge of the Hadassah Mt. Scopus emergency ward for 14 years. Over the past two months I have had occasion to travel daily to Hadassah Ein Karem for radiotherapy treatment. A much greater shock than the photon zaps I received from my Cyclops-eyes linear accelerator was to be subjected day in, day out, to the ministrations of the staffs of Radiotherapy (and Oncology) departments who were exuberantly nice and caring.

For a veteran Israeli like myself who has survived, not unscathed, countless encounters with nasty Israeli bureaucracies and authority figures, the experience was at first confusing. But as the weeks went by it became an incontrovertible

fact that the staffs, from the physicians, through the nurses, the technicians, the secretaries and the floor swabbers, all deserved top marks in human relations.

This is no mean feat, for a large proportion of the clientele of these departments tend to be scared to death; and while this turns some of them into especially meek specimens, others become downright ornery if not aggressive. None of this behavior seemed to affect the extraordinary kindness of all the staff members.

The cynical half of my nature saw this as so extraordinary as to be virtually unnatural — in the normal Israeli context, that is. I soon came to the not unreasonable conclusion that there must have been some hidden process of selection and self-selection at work. Many other patients confirmed my conclusion that only a special sort of person with an unusually high "niceness and kindness" quotient, gravitated to work in these departments.

It should be stressed in this regard that most of the staff — with the exception of the physicians — were abominably underpaid, especially the new immigrant women from the former Soviet Union, who were being cynically exploited. But there was also a process of selection and training at work. When I shared these impressions with some of the doctors, they all named the current department head, Dr. Zelig Tucher, as being primarily responsible for instilling and insisting on maintaining that atmosphere of kindness in the department. Since I was not his private patient I feel no compunction in giving public praise where praise is due.

In a broader all-Israeli context, it was especially edifying to the pro-

fessional Cassandra in me to realize that things could be made better in any Israeli institution if there are only enough determined people in charge who put a premium on carrying out their professional and managerial jobs while being nice to their customers, clientele or patients and to each other.

GOOD news seems to come in bunches. For the past three decades and more I have been addicted to going everywhere by car. For these nine weeks, however, I traveled daily back and forth across Jerusalem by Egged bus. The Number 27 line which begins near Damascus Gate, fills up with Palestinians, haredim, Sephardim from the Bukharan Quarter, an assortment of boy and girl soldiers

headed for the Central Bus Station, Hadassah staffers and outpatients. In short, a good cross-section of Jerusalem's population. As opposed to the "common knowledge" that we Israelis are a particularly surly, if not nasty version of humanity, especially when we are crowded together and in a rush, I am pleased to report that during those nine weeks I never witnessed one instance of nasty or impolite behavior among the passengers or between them and the by-and-large pleasant and helpful drivers.

Can it be, asks a veteran apikores like myself, that the messiah is indeed on the way?

The writer comments on public affairs.



It's up to Arafat now

ZALMAN SHOVAL

Palestinian state and, probably much more important to the average Palestinian, a drastic, overnight improvement in their economic lot.

But far from bringing about immediate prosperity, the combination of rampant corruption (described to me by one prominent Palestinian as "the worst anywhere in the Arab world" — which is saying a lot), an inefficient bureaucracy, a "couldn't-care-less" attitude in most of the Arab world and even among large parts of the affluent

these ultimate aspirations are: Except for a minority of Palestinian "doves" who genuinely accept a "two-state" solution and recognize Israel's right to exist, most of the rest, whether "moderates" or "extremists," see any agreement with Israel, including Oslo, only as an intermediate step towards its disappearance from the map.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has termed Arafat's embrace of Hamas leader Abdul-

Arafat's embrace of Hamas could turn out to be the "kiss of death" to Arafat's leadership

Palestinian Diaspora — plus the intermittent closures which Israel is forced to impose for security reasons, all these have not only destroyed Palestinians' dreams but also deprived many of their daily bread.

Small wonder, therefore, that an organization like Hamas, amply financed by well-wishers in Saudi Arabia and groups and individuals in the West, has been able to step into the breach. Hamas distributes alms to the needy, supports children's schooling and often provides otherwise unobtainable medical aid — all this and (Muslim) heaven too!

THE PALESTINIANS' ultimate political aspirations would never have been fulfilled even under the previous Labor government — and former secretary of state Henry Kissinger in an important article recently makes it very clear what

Aziz Rantisi a potential "kiss of death" to the Middle East peace process — but it could turn out to be the "kiss of death" to Yasser Arafat's own leadership as well. In courting the Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, he seems to be throwing prudence to the wind even in face of the warnings of some of his own security advisers who understand that Hamas will exploit the Palestinian Authority's welcome-mat to garner ever greater popularity and influence amongst the Palestinians. After all, their reasoning goes, the Hamas's real aim is not to praise Arafat but to bury him (at least in political terms) — so why accord it increasing political legitimacy?

But what Arafat's games — some would say double-games — put at risk more than anything else is the

very future of the peace process, jeopardizing not only what his people could achieve in honest and realistic negotiations with Israel but also all that they have already achieved since Madrid.

True, not least as a result of Arafat's own mistakes, some of the terms of reference for a final peace settlement with Israel have changed since the days of Oslo, but if he persists in his present stance, he will increasingly find himself in a lose-lose situation — both with regards to Hamas and vis-a-vis Israel.

One might, of course, ask whether, given their record so far, it is in Israel's best interest to help Arafat and the PA? The answer to that is a qualified "Yes." If they start acting like credible partners, fulfilling all their contractual obligations — especially in the security and anti-terrorism field — and at the same time making good their commitment to finally abolish the Palestinian Charter which calls for the destruction of Israel, there is no doubt that the result would be quicker and better progress in the political negotiations, and closer cooperation in the economic field.

It's up to Arafat to decide; deluding his people and perhaps himself that Washington, the Europeans, the Arab states or even Israel's Labor Party will bail him out, will get him nowhere. And though, he may in the short run have to pay a political price for getting serious about combating terrorism, in the long run this is the only way to bring peace and prosperity to his people.

The writer is a former Likud MK and ambassador to Washington.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DAUGHTER'S IDEA

Sir, — Stephen Rosenfeld came up with a bizarre solution to the problem of Arab terrorism and the stalled peace talks (Aug. 20).

He quotes Dore Gold, Israel's delegate to the UN, who says, "Israel made peace with Egypt and Jordan because no violence was allowed to hover over the peace negotiations. We can't allow violence with Arafat."

Mr. Rosenfeld agrees, and suggests that in the case of Egypt and Jordan, Israel was negotiating with recognized states — and that all Israel need do is to grant statehood to "the PLO — up front," and violence by Arafat would disappear. Obviously, Mr. Rosenfeld forgets that Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq made war (the ultimate terrorism) when they were recognized states, and Israel still had to demand a "no terrorism" condition for peace.

Today, giving statehood to Arafat will result in Israel being used as a "burnt offering for peace."

Our statesmen must learn from Great Britain in the Falklands, the US in Kuwait, China in Hong Kong, and Jordan in "Black September." Mr. Rosenfeld's idea belongs to the dangerous "messianic catechism" of the Oslo-friendly media.

MORTON S. BAUM

Ra'anana

INTROSPECTION AND SOUL-SEARCHING

Sir, — Watching the 50th anniversary celebrations in India (a country with problems far more insoluble than ours), I have been struck by the almost unanimous call — from everyone from politicians to people on the street — for introspection and soul-searching. They actually seem to want to discover where their country has gone wrong and to work toward solutions. The amount of self-criticism and realistic assessment the Indians have voiced is very impressive.

The Indians are intelligent, dynamic and perceptive. We are no less so, and we would do well, approaching our own 50th anniversary, to engage in our own introspection and soul-searching. We're all aware of where our country has gone wrong: our politicians are corrupt, our governments have no long-term plans and also no accountability, our youth is bland, bored and ignorant, drug use and crime are rising, religious coercion is growing, patriotism is unfashionable, and we people on the street don't give a damn about each other.

No matter what happens, there will always be an India. Unless we correct our terrible problems, we may not be able to say the same for much longer.

MARILYN MAGEN

Tel Aviv

3000 YEAR CONNECTION

Sir, — I must take exception with most of the points in Jonathan Rosenberg's opinion "Confrontation: The Whole Point," (Friday, August 15). However, there is one point I would agree with.

Mr. Rosenblum is probably correct when he writes: "The most lapsed Italian Catholic still wants the Vatican to remain the Vatican. He would be outraged if a group of Protestant tourists were to come into St. Peter's Square and attempt to conduct a revival meeting."

However, the point is that women, Masorti and Reform Jews are not tourists from another faith. We are Jews who have the same 3000-year-old emotional connection to the Kotel and Temple Mount as any other Jew. Why do we assume that we are not struck with awe and wonder the same way as other Jews when coming face to face with nearly 3000 years of Jewish history?

Why do you assume that a young woman coming to Jerusalem who knows nothing of Judaism will not find the same commitment that your young Yale student or backpacking friend did? Is it that only a commitment to Orthodox Judaism counts?

SUSAN RAND-LIKRITZ

Kfar Vradim

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

60 years ago: On September 1, 1937, The Palestine Post reported that tension eased after two days of violence during which claimed seven killed. Moshe Goldenberg, the mukhtar of Beit Alfa, had a narrow escape when he was shot at in Beit She'an.

The "Halifon" (Exchange) Company brought goods from Poland in accordance with a special agreement which allowed the transfer of Polish Jews' goods and capital to Palestine.

50 years ago: On September 1,

1947, The Palestine Post reported that the UN 50,000-word-long majority report recommended to the UN General Assembly that Palestine be constituted within two years into an economic union comprising from the Arab and Jewish States and the autonomous City of Jerusalem.

During the transition period the Administration was called upon to admit 150,000 Jews and suspend land-transfer restrictions in the Jewish State which would

include eastern Galilee, the Coastal Plain and the Negev.

25 years ago: On September 1, 1972, The Jerusalem Post reported that Soviet pull-out from Egypt was virtually total. President Sadat was expected to launch a new peace initiative. Soviet officials met with President Assad in an apparent effort to consolidate their presence in Syria.

Alexander Zvielli

Russian chutzpa

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

moving toward Russian borders."

There is irony in this Russian complaint. In May, Russia signed a treaty that effectively absorbs its western neighbor, Belarus. I do not recall Russia consulting with the West about this moving the Russian defense frontier 350 miles west, indeed, to within 80 miles of Warsaw. Yet that same Russia is

sion will once and for all remove the ambiguity surrounding the status of Central Europe.

Stability through finality. NATO expansion defines the place of central Europe. It is no longer to be a buffer between Russia and the West, manipulated and bullied into complying with the wishes of its powerful eastern neighbor. It is no

NATO expansion defines the place of central Europe

now objecting bitterly about the alliance — with popular consent and without annexation — expanding east.

But more important than the chutzpa is the illogic of the Russian position. It rests on the assumption that NATO expansion into Poland (and the others) is a threat to Russia.

Ask yourself this: Is Poland a threat to Russia, or is Russia a threat to Poland? DISPUTES over the status and stability of Central Europe have been at the heart of the three world wars of this century. (The Cold War was World War III). As Peter Rodman of the Nixon Center for Peace and Freedom points out, NATO expan-

longer to be camped, as one wit put it, looking back on Poland's history, in the passing lane of the interstate highway connecting Russia and Germany. It will be part of the West — where it wants to be.

As for the threat to Russia, this is sheer nonsense. Neither Poland, nor NATO through Poland, has any designs on Russia proper. Russia lost its empire, but its homeland is secure. Only Hitler repeated Napoleon's folly, and no one is about to repeat Hitler's. Russia's concern is, in fact, not about its homeland but about its vanished empire. NATO expansion means the definitive end to the Soviet imperialism's westernmost domain. This upsets the Russians. Well,

the British were upset when they lost the American colonies, and, in this century, everything else. But that gave the British no claim on their former dominions nor trumps their former colonies' wish to follow their own destinies.

Hence the final argument of expansion opponents: They concede that Russian fears are either irrational (if sincerely felt) or disingenuous (if merely a nostalgia for empire) — and then capitulate to them. To trample Russian desires and ignore her claims, they say, is to jeopardize democracy in Russia and, in particular, to undermine those democrats in Russia who have been advocating closer ties with the West.

More nonsense. Democracy will rise or fall in Russia the way it does in other countries. The outcome will depend on whether its economic system (presently bandit capitalism) and political structure (presently authoritarian democracy) satisfy the material and social needs of the people. Foreign policy comes — there, as in the US — very low on the list.

NATO expansion will have only the most marginal effect on the evolution of Russian democracy. But it will have a decisive effect on European stability. We mustn't pass up this chance to achieve it.

(Washington Post Writers Group)

Running on Full When Good News Is Bad For Politics

By RICHARD L. BERKE

HOW sweet it is! drew V. Earl Dickinson, a state legislator from Mineral, Va. This November, unlike two years ago, and two years before that, Mr. Dickinson faces no opposition. In fact, in his 26 years in office, he has never seen voters so "really happy."

"I keep on going to the funerals, going to the weddings and showing up at all the different places," the 73-year-old Democrat said. "But the pressure is not there, so I can sit back."

Poodle skirts aren't back yet, but to hear it from incumbents, the happy, even carefree, circumstances of the Eisenhower era are: Profits are up. Unemployment is down. And, notwithstanding the stock market's gyrations, the news seems only to get better. Just last week, the Government reported that the economy grew at a much faster clip during the spring than anticipated.

But good times are not always good for American politics. Good times make for complacent incumbents. And they lead challengers, in their desperate hunt for issues, to engage in excesses that detract from legitimate criticisms of their opponents.

Make no mistake, it is hard to campaign amid prosperity. Ruth W. Messinger, who is expected to win the Democratic mayoral nomination in New York next week and then to challenge Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani in November, knows that as well as anyone. Ms. Messinger last week raised the critical issue of decrepit and overcrowded public schools. But, straining for attention, she overreached in her first television commercial; it featured a staged scene of a class being taught in a



College enrollment is expected to grow 14 percent in coming years. Students at Manhattan Community College crowd a room to register for courses by computer.

Prosperity can lull incumbents and make challengers overreach.

crowded bathroom. Her efforts fell even flatter with the subsequent disclosure that for the first time in seven years, the city's schools had more new classroom spaces than new students.

The biggest beneficiaries of a thriving economy (besides the wealthy investors who helped bankroll the campaigns last year) are President Clinton and, by extension, Vice President Al Gore, who hopes to run in 2000 on the theme of prolonging the prosperity. The Republicans who control Congress are also well positioned if the economy holds. The longer voters are satisfied, the less incentive they have to upset the status quo.

What would Mr. Clinton's campaign theme have been in 1992 had he not seized on the gloom about the economy? Had the economy been in better shape, Mr. Clinton may have found himself in the predicament faced by Walter F. Mondale in his 1984 campaign against President Ronald Reagan — that is, trying with no success to convince voters that they were living on the brink of "an economic Dunkirk."

In announcing last week that he would not run for Governor of Massachusetts next year, Representative Joseph P. Kennedy 2d demonstrated the difficulty of staking out issues when the economy is humming. Had he run, he said, a central tenet of his campaign would have been that "our economy is growing today, but we can't be so content with things as they are."

That hardly sounds like a rallying cry. But politicians are unaccustomed to straining for issues. For so long, they saw their role as diagnosing ills that face the nation — from nuclear war to recession to welfare abuses — and then fighting over remedies. Now, without galvanizing issues, people are becoming even more isolated from government, and elected officials face

Continued on Page 3

Rationing Higher Education

Why College Isn't for Everyone

By KAREN W. ARENSON

WELFARE has had to change. Health care has had to change. The corporate world has had to change. Now it's higher education's turn.

In the same way that America is having to make hard choices about distributing finite resources in those other areas, so it is being forced to decide whether what passes for a college education today is worth the price, and whether society can afford degrees for all who want or think they need one.

The crunch is coming, especially for public universities, because states are putting brakes on higher-education spending just as the children of baby boomers are projected to swell enrollment by 2 million, to 16.4 million, by the year 2006. The result, from the City University of New York with 200,000 students to the University of California with 165,000, is new debate on who should go to college and why, the quality of what is offered, and academic productivity.

"For a century, this has been a growth industry," said Arthur Levine, president of Columbia Teachers College. "Now government is saying, we have lots of priorities, like health care and prisons, and we can't afford to put another nickel into higher education, and we're going to ask lots of questions."

A \$180 Billion Industry

Since World War II, a major aim of public policy has been to make higher education more available, and it has succeeded remarkably. Today two-thirds of all high-school graduates go on to college, nearly 80 percent into public systems. President Clinton would like to make two years of college as universal as high school.

But while educating the elite few was cheap, educating the many is expensive. As college has become more central to society, higher education has grown into

a \$180 billion industry, nearly 3 percent of the economy, from \$2.4 billion, less than 1 percent, 50 years ago.

That growth attracted the attention of state legislators in the early 90's, as tax revenue fell and pressure to cut spending grew. From 1990 to 1994, higher-education spending declined from 14 percent of state budgets to 12.5 percent, according to the Center for the Study of the States at the Rockefeller Institute in Albany. To make up the difference, tuition climbed.

While many states have begun to spend more again, some educators predict that the growth will be limited and carefully monitored. Despite the coming surge in enrollment, said David W. Breneman, an economist and

said it was not. Similarly, 47 percent said that the cost of a college education is justified by what people get out of it, while 40 percent disagreed.

Like health care, higher education faces sentiment that the private sector should do more and government less, that public institutions are bloated, that technology should cut costs. So as more people enroll, public systems grow as targets for politicians and voters.

Nowhere is that more evident than in New York, where admission to the City University of New York is guaranteed to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. Gov. George E. Pataki and Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani criticize CUNY for spending too much effort on remedial classes and for graduating too few of its community-college students.

Open Admissions at What Cost?

The city university's trustees have asked questions going to the heart of the debate: the purpose of the public system. Is it there to get all citizens launched according to their needs — whether studying engineering, learning English or mastering high-school math? Or is its responsibility to maintain high standards?

"CUNY is the last artifact of the people who created open admissions, where the notion of open access for all continues to be celebrated," Carl T. Hayden, chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents, said recently. "The tradeoff is, if you really are committed to access for all, you are going to be admitting people who are not ready to do college work."

CUNY is approaching a crossroads, he said, but so is all of higher education, "because in large measure, issues of quality have not been addressed."

Some CUNY trustees long for a return to the days when fewer people went on to college and City College drew educated second-generation immigrants who couldn't afford private colleges and Jews, who faced

Continued on Page 4

A new boom in enrollment is about to collide with society's ability to pay.

dean of the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia. "I think the growth rate will be grudging."

The public pressure on budgets comes even as more Americans see college as a necessity and a right. In a CBS News poll this month, 75 percent of the 1,307 people questioned said college is needed to get ahead in life, compared with 49 percent in 1978; 86 percent said that "every capable person has a right to receive a college education, even if he or she cannot afford it."

But as Americans demand more education, they are divided over paying for it. In the CBS poll, which had a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points, 48 percent of the respondents said the Federal Government was responsible for insuring that every qualified person gets a college education, but 47 percent

Is Zionism Nationalism? Reconciling a secular vision with a Messianic fervor.

By Roger Cohen

Pensions in Peril? Social Security isn't so secure.

By Craig R. Whitney

Didacticism Redux You're invited to a mass meeting on self-help.

By Frank Bruni

Hollywood Women Go to War

War is hell, but how has it changed with the integration of women into the military? Who the heck knows? Hollywood sure doesn't, says the Pentagon, which has panned Demi Moore's new film, "G.I. Jane."

"G.I. Jane" is probably less a reflection of reality than of evolving audience tastes,

which, to judge from an earlier popular movie about female soldiering, have changed considerably since the 1980's. For fun, the chart below contrasts the 1980 comedy "Private Benjamin" (star and producer: Goldie Hawn) with the brutal, action-packed "G.I. Jane" (star and co-producer: Ms. Moore).

TOM KUNTZ

	PRIVATE BENJAMIN	G.I. JANE
Premise	Bubbly young Jewish princess joins army to forget dead husband, runs into trouble with men. Prevails with sheer perkiness.	Ambitious female Stallone joins Navy Seals, runs into trouble with men, a powerful woman Senator and the Libyan Army. Prevails with M-16 and buff bod.
Key bathroom/shower scene	Very sexual. Husband dies on top of Goldie during love-making.	Oddly asexual: Mecho drill instructor unfazed by nude Demi in shower.
Fashion statement	"Do you have any color besides green?"	Shaves head.
Guts	Forces self to vomit to get out of training.	Eats garbage to survive training.
Fraternization	Occurs frequently. Male superiors and female subordinates like shacking up.	Occurs rarely. None of the other Seals wants to bunk with Demi.
Male commander	Tries to force himself on Goldie.	Tries to bash Demi's skull in.
Her retaliation	Blackmails superior to get cushy Paris posting.	Bashes superior's skull right back; kicks him you know where.
Words on confronting danger	"Oy vey."	"I'm going in."
Rewards	A French lover who turns out to be a cad, whom Goldie dumps. Self-respect.	A medal. The respect of men.

The World

Nationalism With A Zionist Twist

By ROGER COHEN

THINGS were falling apart in Europe when the first Zionist Conference gathered in this Swiss city on Aug. 28, 1897, and resolved 100 years ago today to create a Jewish homeland in Palestine. The Emperor Franz Josef still ruled in Vienna, as he had for the previous half century, but new nationalisms were eating at the static heart of his multi-ethnic empire. The Hapsburgs — like the Ottomans, the Romanovs and the Hohenzollerns — were about to pass into what the Viennese writer Stefan Zweig later called “the world of yesterday.”

Just how explosive the unraveling of the ancien régime would be was unimaginable to the 200 delegates who gathered in Basel 100 years ago. But it is painfully obvious now. Nationalism, in the words of the his-

In Israel, a Messianism foreign to Herzl's nationalism.

torian Jacob Talmon, has proved “the most effective factor in the modern world.” In fact, the violent unrest in the Balkans today looks like the last gasp in a protracted Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman death.

So maybe it was inevitable that a centennial meeting on Zionism in Basel last week would focus on whether Jewish nationalism was different from any other nationalism. If it was similar in its origins, was it also similar in its capacity for myth-driven excess, in its readiness to use the story of its conception to justify the violent acts of the present?

In the beginning Zionism was certainly a response to other nationalist movements. Theodor Herzl, the Viennese journalist, brought the 200 delegates to Basel in 1897 to discuss the danger to the Jews that lurked in the looming fragmentation of the Austro-Hungarian empire in which he and over one million other Jews lived.

If the old God-given imperial order was passing — with its autocracy and its squalid

multi-national tolerance — and if the spread of education, communication and social mobility was ushering in a new era of nation states, what would happen to the Jews in these new nations? How, for example, was a German-speaking Jew in Bohemia to respond to Czech nationalism?

Herzl's answer, laid out in his eerily prophetic book of 1896, “The Jewish State,” was that Jews would have no security in the emergent modern world. Jews, whether poor or rich, would always be seen as stereotypes: the strident socialist, the successful salesman. “One thing is clear,” Herzl wrote. “Everywhere, you hear the same air, which may be summed up in the classic Berlin formula: ‘Juden Raus’ — ‘Jews out!’”

And so began the push for a Jewish state, what the first Zionist Congress called a “homeland in Palestine secured by public law.” It was created by means that were, in the view of historian Miroslav Hroch of Prague University, largely the means of other nationalist movements. “If Zionism was the constitution of the Jewish nation,” Mr. Hroch said, “then its methods also had much in common with other nationalist movements.”

Thus, Zionism involved the shaping of a secular identity from an old religious identity. It involved the quest for self-determination of a non-dominant ethnic group. It sought — through a flag, an anthem and other symbols — to forge, even invent, a sense of a community among very different people — some living in semi-feudal conditions in Russia and others as emancipated as Herzl himself. Zionism cultivated an association with a historic territory — Palestine — and offered a galvanizing vision of a utopian future.

And in undertaking this daunting objective, Zionists sought to exploit the interests of one of the Great Powers. Zionists knew that Britain was interested in having a Jewish presence in Palestine as a means to destabilize the Ottoman empire.

But Zionism was critically different from other nationalist movements. There was no common language. “Who among us,” asked Herzl contemptuously, “speaks enough Hebrew to buy a railway ticket using this language?” Another, more critical difference was that the Zionist project involved not the carving of national borders through mixed European populations — treacherous enough in itself and cause of several wars including the latest fighting in the Balkans — but a massive displacement of Jews from



Many rabbis have spurned the secular vision of a Jewish homeland. In 1994, Rabbi Moshe Hirsch of the Orthodox and anti-Zionist Neturei Karta sect welcomed P.L.O. Chairman Yasser Arafat to Jericho.

Europe to a Palestine inhabited by Arabs.

A third difference was that Herzl, with his rational and secular convictions, specifically eschewed recourse to any divine justification for his nationalist movement. He was nothing like the Croatians who talk today of defending a “Catholic frontier” against barbarism, or like the Serbs who view themselves as a “celestial people” with a God-given mission to beat back Islam going back to the Battle of Kosovo in 1389.

In fact, it was precisely Herzl's secularism, his sharp focus on practical measures, that led many rabbis to spurn his movement as an attempt to create through human organization a deliverance that they thought should be divine — a fact that lends some irony to the religious and providential tones of much Israeli nationalism today.

Therein, it seems, lies the twist. The return to Zion — the hill in Jerusalem on which the “City of David” stood — and the repeated battles with the Palestinians

fought there have inspired a Messianism foreign to Herzl's nationalism. To many delegates at the centennial conference, Zionism had succeeded — albeit too late for six million European Jews — in its essential aim of the establishment of a Jewish state, only to be frustrated by excesses that are common to all other nationalist movements.

“Zionism's agenda today must involve insistence on the same rights for others as we demand for ourselves,” said Yehuda Bauer, a historian. “It requires the separation of church and state in Israel. In short, Zionism must still work on what Herzl prescribed. These are difficult adjustments, but they are preferable to more conflict.”

The Jewish Question, Settled

Of course, Israel's very existence as the democratic and participatory state that Herzl imagined insures that Europe's latest seismic shift — the end of the cold war and

the break-up of former Communist states — does not leave Jews marooned. The Russian-speaking Jewish Communist in Kazakhstan today has somewhere to go, unlike the Jews of the new and unstable national states of Europe in the 1920's and 1930's.

Zionism has not yet, as Herzl hoped, brought peace. But it has resolved the Jewish question, the question of where the Jews should go, in the way that any nationalism does: through the backing of a national identity with credible force. The Jew need no longer be passive before remarks like that of the British diplomat who, asked in 1935 to define anti-Semitism, replied, “An anti-Semite is a person who dislikes Jews more than is natural.”

In this sense the Jew is better off today than a Yugoslav, any person of mixed Slavic descent left homeless and soulless by the delirium of Messianic Balkan nationalism, the final spasm of the European upheaval that Herzl foresaw.

Japanese Parenting

Introducing a Child to the Culture of Shame



By NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

TOKYO

JAPANESE children are amazing. It is impossible to be an American parent in Tokyo without feeling a mix of curiosity and envy at the improbably angelic tots who inhabit kindergartens in Japan, who sit in restaurants without trying to unscrew the salt shakers, who walk by ice cream stands on a hot summer's day without citing an inalienable right to a cone.

So when the chance came, I decided to try my hand at parenting Japanese style. My five-year-old, Gregory, was playing by the swings when he suddenly dove into the dust and emerged to show me the treasure in his palm. It was a 100-yen coin, worth a bit less than a dollar.

When Japanese children find coins on the street, their parents often take the child to the local police box to turn it in as “found property.”

I vowed to do the same. Gregory would be thrilled, and maybe the episode would help teach him the concept that finders are not always keepers. Who knows? He might even turn into an angel like most of his Japanese friends.

The striking thing about the angelic qualities of Japanese children is how well the halo survives into adulthood these days.

Japanese society is remarkably honest by international standards. A foreigner can get into a taxi in Tokyo and explain that he doesn't know the area and still count on getting to the destination by a direct route; once there, the driver will even pick out the correct fare from a proffered handful of currency.

How does a society inculcate such honesty? It has a lot to do with a culture of shame. Social

pressure means that Japanese parents cannot drive a dirty car around the neighborhood or wear an old T-shirt when taking their kids to school, and the same pressure keeps them from writing bad checks. As a result of such pressures, Japan has a very low murder rate but a fairly high suicide rate. When the Japanese get fed up, they don't kill their neighbors, as in America. Instead, they kill themselves.

Japan imbues rigorous notions of propriety into children from an early age. No one here debates whether values can be taught. Society operates on the assumption that they not only can be taught but must be. And the teaching starts the first time a child finds a coin on the pavement.

SO the day after Gregory found that 100-yen coin, we went to deposit it in the local police box. A stocky young policeman with trim hair and piercing eyes stood there, and I pushed Gregory toward him. We explained our mission, and the policeman nodded sagely and pulled out a “found property” form.

“When did you find the coin?” the policeman asked Gregory.

“Yesterday,” Gregory squeaked.

“What time?” That stumped Gregory, who could not really tell time, but we decided that he had found it about 5:50 p.m.

The questions went on and the policeman established Gregory's address, occupation and the precise location in Arisugawa Park where he had found the coin. Then the policeman telephoned some kind of central office to explain gravely that a citizen had turned in a 100-yen coin; he received an administrative record number for the found property.

Then, he praised Gregory's honesty, gave us a re-

When the Japanese get fed up, they don't go out and kill their neighbors, as in America. Instead, they kill themselves.

ceipt and told us that in a bit more than six months we could claim the coin if no one else had claimed it.

The police officer probably spent 30 minutes handling the matter. A cynic might call this kind of procedure a colossal waste, particularly since parents sometimes bring in kids with smaller coins, sometimes even a one-yen coin, worth less than a penny. But the Japanese see it as an investment in honesty. As I walked out of the police station with a bearing Gregory I was convinced that it was a brilliant idea.

But nothing is as simple as it seems. Three days later, Gregory was walking home from the kindergarten when he suddenly leaped into the shrubbery and emerged with a 10-yen coin, worth less than a dime.

“Let's go to the police station!” he suggested, his face brimming with excitement.

It got worse. Gregory started finding coins right and left and demanding that we go turn them in. The policeman had been very patient the first time, but I thought that if we went in every few days with a small coin and asked the

police officers to fill out all the forms, they might be inclined to arrest Gregory.

Fortunately, Gregory's Japanese kindergarten began collecting money for the poor, with the stipulation that donations had to be from the kids themselves, not from their parents. So I told Gregory that it would be okay if he donated the coins he had found to the poor people, and he seemed only slightly confused about why it was suddenly all right to give away money that previously I had emphasized was not his.

I began to realize that teaching Japanese-style values is harder work than it seems.

Going to the police station to turn in the coin had been my disingenuous way of teaching Gregory honesty, and he appeared to realize this. Disingenuousness perhaps was not the best way to teach honesty. I still thought that the system of taking children to the police station to turn in coins was a good way to teach values, but perhaps not if the child had eyes as keen as Gregory's.

SINCE I put Gregory off when he suggested going back to the police station, he stopped looking for coins so enthusiastically. He found a few, which I put aside, suggesting that we collect them to take to the police station all together, and in the end he forgot about them.

But this summer, a bit more than six months after he had turned in the 100-yen coin, we went back to the police station to inquire about it.

The policeman checked the records, announced that no one had claimed the coin, and handed it over to Gregory with a compliment about his honesty. Gregory beamed mightily. But a week later, he suddenly fell to the ground and picked something up. “Daddy!” he shouted, thrilled. “A coin!”

Ideas & Trends

In Europe, Too, Social Security Isn't So Secure

By CRAIG R. WHITNEY

THE "contract between the generations" that underlies most national pension systems in Europe, as well as Social Security in the United States, is headed inexorably for trouble, in less than a decade in many countries.

When the post-World War II baby boom generation retires, younger generations may not be able to keep their part of the bargain. In most developed countries, people are living longer while having fewer children, spelling disaster for "pay as you go" pension systems that tax current workers to finance the retirement of their elders.

The problem is even more acute in Europe than in America, because Europeans rely more heavily on government pensions. And Europeans of the generations that experienced World War II and its aftermath regard the generational contract as part of a sacred commitment to eliminate the economic insecurities and injustices that helped spawn that conflict.

In a hedonistic, materialistic age that takes peace for granted, "pay as you go" pension systems are soon going to require young people to sacrifice a good part of their own well-being to keep their elders living in style. Will they want to?

Don't Bet on It

Don't bet on it, according to the 29-nation Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris, which is encouraging its members to start thinking now about switching to pension systems financed by investment plans. Switching isn't easy.

This week voters in New Zealand will start going to the polls in a referendum asking whether the country should move to a compulsory retirement savings plan and gradually give up the tax-based system that has provided pensions for the past 100 years.

The referendum may fail because of fears that mandatory retirement savings would cancel out tax cuts promised by the conservative coalition elected last year. But New Zealanders are not alone in their reluctance to bite the bullet.

In 1995, when a conservative Government in France announced that it would require locomotive engineers or the state-operated railways to work beyond the age of 50 — like everyone else — before they could collect pensions, a national transportation strike shut down the country until the Government backed off. Most people, according to polls, supported the strikers, thinking the Government was trying to weasel out of a half-century-old commitment to public servants.

This June, the French replaced the conservative Government with a Socialist one that immediately canceled tax incentives for private retirement investment plans.

The French system, too, is headed for trouble. French pensions pay retirees about 70 percent of their average wages. Right now, with about three workers for every person drawing a pension, financing pensions requires an average payroll tax of about 25 percent of gross salary, with employers paying more than employees.

Pure Pain

But in the year 2015, France will have only two workers per retiree; by 2030, according to recent projections, 30 million French workers and their employers will be expected to finance pensions for 18.6 million retirees. Pure "pay as you go" would mean pure economic pain for those paying.

The curve is similar in Japan and Germany, Italy and most other European countries except Britain, where since the 1980's 5.5 million people have opted out of the state system, taking advantage of tax incentives offered by Conservative governments to encourage private investment plans.

Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher and John Major may have been able to change pensions, but they never tried seriously to do away with cradle-to-grave socialized medicine in Britain because people loved it too much. Continental Europeans feel much the same about their pension systems, which eliminated one of the main causes of social insecurity in the first half of the century.

In Germany, runaway inflation and the two world wars twice destroyed the entire life savings that earlier generations had counted on to pay for their retirements.

In France, the trauma of defeat, the German occupation and collaboration in World War II — and pressure from the Communist Party, which emerged as a leader of the Resistance — created a powerful demand for a system of postwar social solidarity that, like the rest of the welfare state, would heal past divisions.

Fifty years later, the French and other Europeans consider their social benefits as rights, and governments, mindful of the French experience in 1995, are skittish about paring them. The result is that in most countries, few people are even aware of the looming gap in pension funding.

Government pensions are costly, and younger workers may be unwilling to pay.

The most obvious solution is what Conservative governments did in Britain: encouraging people to provide for themselves, using Social Security as a fallback. But people can feel abused when, as in Britain, governments change and the incentives for private investment are reduced.

For continental Europeans, that strategy is too harsh in any event. People who invest their savings wisely or with a bit of luck could end up living high off the hog, while others, they fear, could end up with less.

Another possible solution is to reduce benefits. In Germany, where pensions already take 20.3 percent of every salary (shared evenly between employers and employees), Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition has proposed gradually letting pension benefits erode from the current level of 70 percent of a person's last net salary, to 64 percent by 2030. But the Social Democratic opposition has so far blocked any change. In the United

States, where Social Security takes 10 percent of salaries, split evenly between employees and employers, benefits are just over 40 percent of average earnings.

Some economists suggest that the retirement age, now 65 in most countries with "pay as you go" systems, should be gradually raised to 70 to keep enough money flowing in to stave off bankruptcy. But by far the preferred solution, according to Douglas Fore, an O.E.C.D. economist, is to switch to fully funded investment systems.

Chile did that in 1981 on the day most people around the world celebrate as Labor Day, May 1.

Passing the Buck

And today, 83 percent of Chile's population participates in a system that allows employees to contribute 10 percent of their annual salary, up to \$20,000 a year, into one of 15 retirement investment funds under Government supervision.

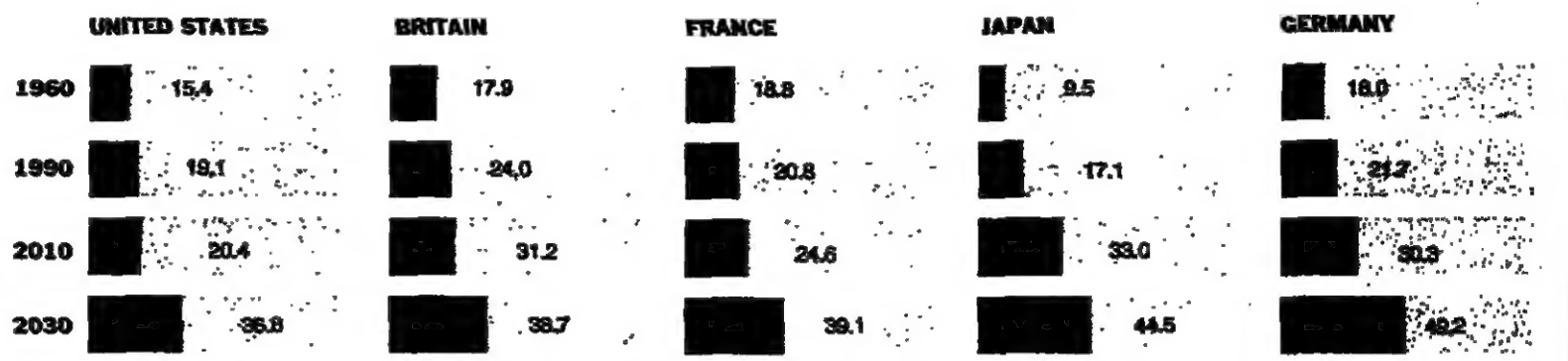
José Piñera, the architect of the plan, said recently that he had persuaded authorities in Argentina, Peru and Colombia to move toward similar systems, and that Mexico, Bolivia and El Salvador were headed that way.

But in countries with less dynamic economic growth, as a recent OECD study put it, "There are no painless solutions. The younger generation will have to pay the bulk of the costs one way or another."

Longer Lives, More Retirees

Increased life expectancies for baby boomers around the world will mean more people collecting government pensions but fewer workers to pay for them. A look at people over age 65 as a percentage of the working-age population, and projections for the future.

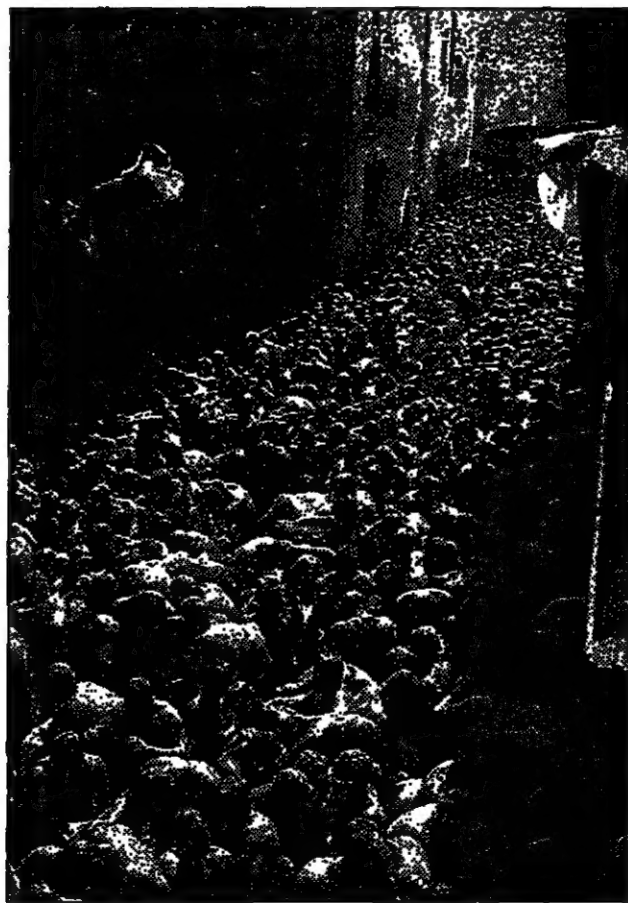
Source: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development



The New York Times

Pulp Nonfiction

The Running of the Tomatoes



Sauced: revelers at La Tomatina in Buñol, Spain. So what if the town's history has little to do with tomatoes?

By AL GOODMAN

ON Wednesday, as on the last Wednesday of August every year, the village square of Buñol turned red in a giant food fight with ripe tomatoes. Upwards of 20,000 people pelted one another for an hour — and, before and after, bought food and drinks and acted like tourists.

The sticky frenzy is called La Tomatina. It has attracted television cameras from abroad and listings on the Internet. A restaurant named Tomatina opened last year in St. Helena, Calif., decorated with a photo of the fight and a door painted to look like it was just splattered with a tomato.

This is no small feat for Buñol, a working-class town of 9,300 people formerly renowned for its cement factory. The town, in fact, formerly had nothing to do with tomatoes. It still does not grow them or process them, and its bars don't even serve Bloody Marys.

But in Spain's crowded field of town fiestas, that's no matter. Spain has its old festivals — Pamplona's running of the bulls is the best known — and now its new ones, the throngs attracted by cute themes that have no roots to speak of in local tradition or culture.

Pamplona was running bulls through town back in the 16th century. In Valencia, 24 miles from Buñol in eastern Spain, the "fallas" festival is traced to medieval carpenters who burned excess wood shavings on March 19 to honor their patron saint, St. Joseph. It has grown to become a spectacular blaze of papier-mâché figures on a single night, with hundreds of thousands of onlookers.

In gaining recognition for its fiesta, Buñol had competition not just from these two, but from many

towns whose fiestas tapped centuries of tradition. And Buñol had little of its own.

The town banned bullfights in the 1930's, considering them to be cruel. But a decade later, a tomato fight broke out on the town square during a local procession. There are varying explanations of why the tomatoes started flying, but all agree that more tomatoes were thrown the following year, and the fiesta took seed.

It remained mainly a local event until 1983, when Spanish national television showed up. Tomato T-shirt sales followed soon after, and this year one villager started selling waterproof disposable cameras for \$10 to tourists about to enter the fray.

Joining in the action last week were travelers from San Francisco, Washington, London and Tokyo who said that making tomato sauce in public was their principal reason for visiting Spain.

Museums. Big Deal.

A booming firework signaled the start, and six large trucks filled with 137 tons of pear-shaped tomatoes entered the town square in a staggered procession.

"It was like being caught in a blender," said Martin Lenick, 33, a chemical engineer from Chicago who first heard about the fight the previous night while enjoying a Bloody Mary in Valencia.

When the exuberant crowd surged to grab tomatoes dumped from the trucks, the sheer force of motion pulled Mr. Lenick out of his \$80 handmade leather sandals purchased days earlier in Milan. They were lost in the slush, and he happily fought barefoot.

The bragging rights seem to be irresistible for foreigners. "Everyone sees museums," said Deirdre Goggins, 31, who works at a San Francisco software firm.

"But how many can say, 'When I was in Spain I participated in a tomato fight?'"

After the fight, everyone cleans up the streets and building facades, and many go home for a meal of tomato salad and gazpacho, a less-than-ancient tradition.

Other Spanish villages have also discovered that fiestas need not be historically certified.

In the isolated southern mountain town of Bérchules, bar and discotheque owners were fed up with power failures in December that more than once left their New Year's Eve galas in the dark. So the town, population 880, invented a fiesta three years ago to celebrate New Year's Eve in August. This year, foreigners were among the 5,000 people who paid two dollars to uncork champagne, dine, dance and kiss each other at the stroke of midnight.

Government officials say fiestas add variety for tourists who would be visiting Spain anyway for its beaches or art museums. Tourism generated 10 percent of the nation's \$682 billion gross domestic product last year and accounted for one out of every eight jobs.

There are no data on the impact of the fiestas, but some towns have estimates. Valencia, Spain's third-largest city, spends about \$3 million a year to build its papier-mâché "fallas," and in recent years has taken in more than \$65 million from the fiesta.

Buñol's main expense is tomatoes, about \$14,000 worth this year. All of them, except for those from local gardens that might end up in the gazpacho, are trucked in from the next province.

That is still closer than the original home for tomatoes, which Spanish explorers brought back from Mexico and Peru. Buñol is nestled at the foot of a 15th-century castle. And if someone could locate a local ancestor who sailed with the conquistadors, the problem of the tomato fight fiesta's short pedigree might be solved after all.

Good News, Bad Politics

Continued From Page 1

even less pressure to accomplish anything. Then, too, Americans are by nature nonideological, and they might have been exposed to an overload of ideology in the 1994 and 1996 campaigns.

Gov. Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin, a Republican, said the public's interest in politics, including the Congressional fund-raising inquiry that resumes this week, is wearing thinner than ever. "Because of the economy, people are saying, 'I'm not afraid of losing my job,'" Mr. Thompson said. "So who wants to turn on their television and listen to a bunch of grown men argue over who was getting what money from the Chinese?"

The healthy economy made it easy for Congress and the President to agree to balance the budget, which now will make it all the harder for politicians to figure out what to talk about. For incumbents, it's not worrisome in the short run. "Politicians have all died and think they have gone to heaven," said Burdett A. Loomis, a political science professor at the University of Kansas. "Think of the allure of it: you can cut taxes. You can balance the budget. You don't have to cut Medicare."

But how do politicians present themselves now? The mood was ambivalent last weekend at a conference of Midwest Republicans in Indianapolis. Speaker Newt Gingrich drew cheers when he hailed the tax-cutting pact with Mr. Clinton. But hours later, former Vice President Dan Quayle was applauded by the same audience when he castigated the party for its role in the agreement.

While there are only a handful of elections in November, the traditional Labor Day kick-off seems particularly muted. In Virginia, the race for Governor is such a sleeper — and both candidates seem to be mousing such similar middle-of-the-road promises — that a group of influential business executives has decided to sit out the race and focus on finding someone to run when the seat is open again in 2001.

The contest for Governor of New Jersey has focused on local issues like automobile insurance. Gov. Christine Todd Whitman said she has been struck by the degree to which voters are concerned only about "things that impact their lives very directly."

Think Values

Q. Whitfield Ayres, a Republican pollster in Atlanta, said many of his clients have the same refrain: "So what's next? What should Republicans do now?" Mr. Ayres is counseling them to artfully weave vague worries about moral values into more concrete issues like crime and education. The danger is that if social issues begin to replace the economic issues that have traditionally been the province of Republicans, that could undermine the party's efforts to appeal to independent-minded voters.

And elected officials who think they are so popular right now perhaps should not be overconfident. It could be that the Eisenhower-like boasts of "peace and prosperity" are ill-advised. If the economy falls flat, these same politicians could be punished at the polls for presiding over a downturn.

"I don't think people are going to swallow the 'Happy Days Are Here Again' argument forever," said Michael S. Lewis-Beck, a political scientist at the University of Iowa. "They have to send kids to college and to pay for mortgages."

But, at least for now, most politicians are not about to try to convince people that things are not as good as they may think. Just look at a poll conducted last month by CBS News: A whopping 73 percent of Americans rated the economy as in very good or fairly good shape.

Ideas & Trends

Self-Help Credo: I'm O.K., You're Not

By FRANK BRUNI

FOR people living in an ostensibly free society, Americans have lately been subjected to a particularly vigorous display of finger wagging.

Smoking? Don't do it near your neighbor, and don't endorse movies that glamorize it. Violence on television? Blot it out, either through personal resolve or V-chips. Divorce? Don't do it, and support remedies like Louisiana's "covenant marriages" to make couples tough it out. Fur? Wear it at your own risk.

Americans will consider paternalistic advice as long as it's not mandatory.

The list goes on, and the lecturing has grown loud enough that no less an apostle of big, preachy government than George McGovern, the former senator and Presidential candidate, recently raised his voice in anguished protest.

"Where," Mr. McGovern asked this month on the Op-Ed page of *The New York Times*, "do we draw the line on dictating to each other?"

That is a question as old as the Republic itself, with answers as complicated as the balancing act between liberty and order. And it strikes at both the long tradition of didacticism in American life and the public's shifting attitudes about it.

When it comes to having Americans tell each other how to live, they are often unable to figure out how they feel.

"It's on some level easier, and on some level necessary, not to wake up every day and make every decision for yourself," said

Jean Bethke Elstain, a professor of social and political ethics at the University of Chicago. As a result, she noted, "We spend a lot of time searching for moral authorities that we then develop this very ambivalent relationship to. We lurch."

Americans' hunger for clear guides is most obvious in their steadfast participation in religion, but their distaste for ironclad rules is equally apparent in the proliferation of affiliations.

Obedying and Rebellious

That tension — between following and leading, obeying and rebelling — has sometimes produced rich ironies. Ralph Waldo Emerson articulated a philosophy of self-reliance; Americans flocked to public lectures where he told them how.

In recent decades, sociologists and historians say, American didacticism has taken some new forms, and receptiveness to it has begun to follow some new rules.

Todd Gitlin, a professor at New York University and the author of "The Twilight of Common Dreams: Why America Is Wracked by Culture Wars" (Metropolitan Books/Henry Holt, 1995), says that a blurring of the boundaries between the personal and the political, which began in the 1960's, has opened the door to moralizing on any number of new fronts. What people wear, the language with which they address each other and the tobacco smoke or perfume wafting from their bodies have come to be treated not as private expressions but public issues, and thus suitable topics for censure and — more significant — censors.

"Today, many more people feel entitled to be censorious," Mr. Gitlin said. "It's not all coming from Billy Graham and Norman Vincent Peale and Joe McCarthy. It's coming from Newt Gingrich and from Gloria Steinem and from the animal rights people and from the Southern Baptist Convention. What you have in the society right now is a surplus population of pulpits."

This riot of voices, some scholars say, rushed in to fill a vacuum created by the faltering clout of traditional authorities.



How's this for public moralizing? A Paris showing of vegetable fashion by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Since Vietnam and Watergate, many Americans have demonstrated a limited tolerance for moralizing from politicians.

At the same time, they have developed a seemingly limitless interest in behavioral prescriptions from private figures. The best example is the explosion of advice and how-to books over the past three decades.

"What used to be a couple of shelves of books has turned into a whole business in and of itself," said Jody Kohn, a spokeswoman for Borders bookstores.

From the spiritualist M. Scott Peck to the pop psychologist Laura Schlessinger, from the political contrarian Rush Limbaugh to the medical contrarian Andrew Weil, a

hodgepodge of demi-gurus achieve fame and amass fortunes by telling Americans what's right, what's wrong and what to do about the most intimate dilemmas in their lives.

That these didactic enterprises all fall under the rubric of what is called self-help echoes the Emersonian paradox while perhaps illuminating and explaining a great deal about our seemingly contradictory attitudes toward public preaching.

Nadine Strossen, president of the American Civil Liberties Union, suggests that Americans feel one way about didacticism that has the muscle of law and yields rules, and another way about didacticism that has no authority and spawns recommendations.

"One is coercive and reduces individual freedom of choice," Ms. Strossen said. "The other expands it."

In other words, Americans don't mind being told what to do so long as they asked, and so long as they maintain the right of refusal. A reading list from Oprah Winfrey is one thing, a reading list from a Congressman quite another. Moralizing about food or relationships from an author seeking a perch on the best-seller list raises few hackles; similar preaching from a special-interest group seeking Federal legislation raises many.

Outsiders are welcome into Americans' closets and cupboards. But they would be wise to show their invitations at the door.

Rationing College

Continued From Page 1

quotas. Today private colleges often recruit the city's best students, while CUNY remains the gateway for tens of thousands of the most disadvantaged, including students living below the poverty line, immigrants who know little or no English and adults working to support their families. Some of these students go on to careers as academics or professionals, CUNY data show, but many drop out after a few semesters.

The trustees are asking whether students should take remedial courses before enrolling. They are looking at ways to measure student progress, in pursuit of what some trustees call "open admissions with standards." They want to shrink the administration while holding CUNY's 15 colleges to more explicit standards.

"We probably have hit the high water mark in terms of revenues from the city and state and have to be judicious in what we cut," Ronald J. Marino, the head of CUNY's fiscal affairs committee, said last week.

For CUNY, nearly all issues are on the table. From state to state, the emphasis

varies: in Minnesota, how to dismiss tenured faculty when their programs are superfluous; in California and Texas, how to encourage minority students when affirmative action programs are shut down; in most states, how to make colleges and their faculties more accountable.

Some educators see opportunities to tighten a system grown lax. "We have taken this system as far as we can stretch it, and it's been wonderfully inventive, but less and less of what we do matches society's needs," said Frank Newman, president of the Education Commission of the States, an advisory group.

Perhaps the biggest concern is that what is most likely to be lost in any transformation is access for the most disadvantaged.

"The question is, do you want to help people succeed?" said C. Peter Magrath, president of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges. "If so, you have to help. Of course, since resources are finite and you don't want to deprive others, you don't want to have students who hang around forever. The question is whether you keep open your doors."

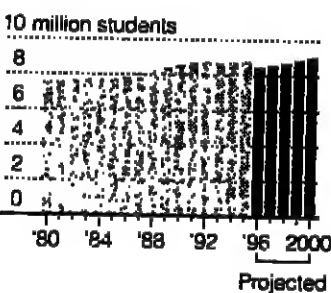
A CLOSER LOOK

Higher Education: Enrollment Up, Spending Erratic

Federal and state financing has made higher education available to more people. But in recent years, as college enrollment and tuition costs have gone up, federal spending has fluctuated and state spending has remained relatively flat.

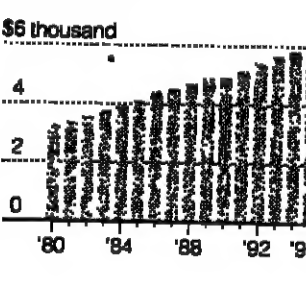
Enrollment

Total full-time and part-time fall enrollment in public and private 4-year institutions.



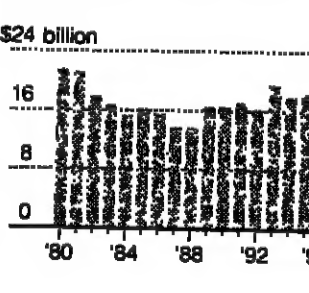
Tuition

Average tuition and fees paid per student, per year for public and private 4-year institutions. In 1997 dollars.



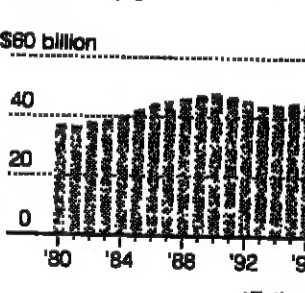
Federal spending

Federal education support for college, university and vocational programs after high school. In 1997 dollars.



State spending

State appropriations for higher education for public and private institutions. In 1997 dollars.



Sources: U.S. Dept. of Education, National Center for Educational Statistics, Center for Higher Education, Illinois State University

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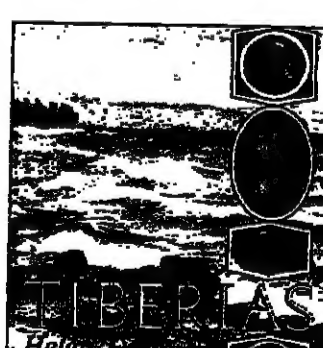
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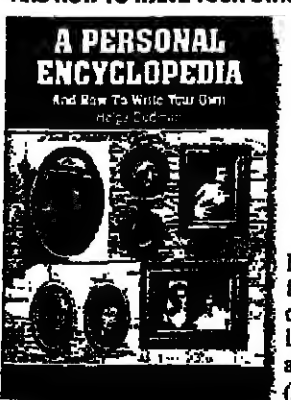
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ECONOMY

Supermarkets are Looking For a Brand New Bag

By DANA CANEDY

DAVID MCFARLAND makes daily jaunts to a grocery store two miles from his home, but not for bread or milk.

He goes to the Kroger supermarket in Alpharetta, a suburb north of Atlanta, to use the treadmills and stair-climbing machines in the store's fitness center. There is even a trainer with a degree in exercise physiology to guide him through his workouts.

Carmella Edelman has little use for the treadmills, but she has become a regular at the store for its cooking school, across from the aisle where Maybelline mascara and Stephen King paperback books are sold. For about \$80 — food included — students learn to whip up duck ravioli with brown butter sauce, chocolate-chip biscotti and other such delights.

Is your driver's license about to expire? You can renew it at the store's customer service counter. Other chains are offering sushi bars and shoe repair, or providing babysitting while harried parents shop.

All this, of course, is intended to lure people into supermarkets, and not just to tighten abs or teach customers to stir-fry. Once they're inside, the grocery store of the 90's is designed to get shoppers not only to

buy toothpaste and cereal but also to fill their carts with high-margin convenience items like boneless, skinless, marinated chicken breasts. Behind the scenes, meanwhile, store operators are working to shave pennies off the cost of stocking chicken-noodle soup and other staples that add little to their bottom lines.

The goal is to push razor-thin profits closer to 2 percent than 1 percent, which is about all that even the best operators have been able to achieve in the supermarket industry. That challenge is attracting some of the smartest money in the United States and Europe to a business rarely regarded as innovative. It is forcing supermarket operators to spend billions of dollars remodeling outdated stores and investing in technology. And it is driving already big chains into the arms of larger, more powerful merger partners.

The food fight in Atlanta is a microcosm of what is happening across the country — especially in growing cities where chains can plant superstores amid new suburban subdivisions, in hopes of cashing in on robust economies, relatively cheap land and population growth.

With profits so slim, the chase is do or die, and Atlanta's market is especially competitive. Some grocers in this city, which in the 1990's has had among the highest rates of store openings and new market entrants in the country, have already been driv-

en out. And there are likely to be more casualties when the economy inevitably slows.

"The square footage that is going in there is just mind-boggling," said Bonni Zwickel, an industry analyst for First Boston, surveying the Atlanta market. "Second- or third-tier players just have to fall out at some point."

The reason for the industry's attempts to remake itself? Investors are demanding better returns at a time supermarket companies are losing business to unlikely competitors that now stock grocery items. Toys "R" Us sells diapers and baby formula. Wal-Mart is counted as the fifth-biggest supermarket chain in America. And many baby boomers would rather buy Boston Market's take-out meals than supermarket frozen dinners or — of all things — the ingredients to actually cook a meal.

"The fine between grocery retailers and other kinds of retailers continues to blur," said Paul Bernish, a spokesman for the Kroger Company in Cincinnati, which at \$25 billion in sales is the nation's largest grocery chain. "Without us taking action and becoming smarter ourselves, we face the possibility of losing our place in consumers' minds."

In Atlanta, the competition is visible in hickering over ads and promotions, battles for prime real estate and a proliferation of store concepts that may not pay off. What, after all, does Kroger really know about the fitness business? In the Alpharetta store, it did cruelly plant the gym just a few feet from the bakery.

Despite the risk that some of their efforts will flop, the dozen or so competitors here are undaunted. Kroger relies on service — offering, for instance, dry-cleaning at some stores. A struggling local chain, Harry's Farmers Market, pulls in customers from 30 miles away with the most extensive product assortment in town, everything from fresh fish heads to \$100-an-ounce balsamic vinegar. Winn-Dixie has positioned itself as the bargain shopper's alternative, advertising cheap wine and beef. Publix has simply bulldozed its way into the \$6 billion Atlanta market, spending more than \$300 million to open about 60 stores in five years.

The aisles are becoming crowded in other cities, too. In Houston and Dallas, Albertson's and Kroger have displaced Houston-based Randall's as the market leader by rapidly expanding with new or revamped stores. And Safeway, in which the New York takeover firm Kohlberg Kravis Roberts has a one-third stake, bought a leading chunk of the Southern California market last year when it acquired the Vons Companies.

Other deals include the purchase of Stop & Shop Companies by Ahold N.V., a Dutch company, and the acquisition of Kash 'n' Karry Food Stores by Food Lion. In addition, Kohlberg Kravis Roberts recently purchased the Bruno's chain, continuing its spree of buying undervalued grocery companies with strong turnaround prospects.

THE push to create larger regional chains is reshaping competition from Phoenix to Charlotte to Seattle, although parts of the Northeast have lagged behind the trend. The New York City area is an especially tough market that many operators avoid altogether because of its shortage of vacant land, high real estate and labor costs and zoning barriers.

In the growth markets, however, consumers have come to expect even more variety, increased service and lower prices. While shoppers may judge the industry by the number of stores near their homes that have sushi bars, the real gauges of success have more to do with factors far from shoppers' view — in produce coolers, warehouses and corporate offices.

For example, customers at Kroger stores in Atlanta may think it is a coincidence when cashiers hand them coupons offering 50 cents off their favorite brand — and flavor — of ice cream. But scanners that tally their food bills at the checkout counters are simultaneously analyzing what they buy. This technology,

growing in popularity among the chains, is being rolled out at hundreds of Kroger stores.

The checkout data allow stores to instantly print coupons for items being purchased (or for similar products) and to electronically reorder merchandise as it sells. Because the promotions are linked to the inventory, fewer cases of soda collect dust in warehouses.

Kroger, citing competitive reasons, declined to say how much money it was saving through its technology investments and other cost-cutting measures. Industrywide, though, such improvements can make the difference between turning a profit or reporting a loss as supermarket sales remain flat.

The industry's revenues, excluding sales from warehouse clubs and convenience stores, increased 11 percent last year, to \$323.2 billion. But sales actually declined slightly after adjusting for inflation, according to Progressive Grocer, a trade publication.

At the same time, the industry's operating expenses declined last year to 96.95 percent of sales, from 97.90 percent in 1995, according to the Food Marketing Institute, a trade group. Minute as that may seem, it was substantial for an industry that counts its profits in fractions of a penny: it contributed \$3 billion to pretax profits, helping net income rise to 1.2 percent of sales from 1.14 percent in 1995 and a low of 0.49 percent in 1993, according to the marketing institute.

Surprisingly, the value of supermarket stocks, which have always trailed the broader market, is still in the cellar. Food retailers' shares, as measured by the Standard & Poor's food retail index, rose 8.6 percent so far this year, versus the 21.4 percent gain for the 500 stocks in the broader S.&P. index. Part of the reason for the disparity is that the payoff from the big chains' costly investments is just beginning to show up on balance sheets; in addition, while supermarkets are becoming more efficient, many still suffer from heavy debts accumulated in leveraged buyouts during the 80's and early 90's.

The attraction is that even with skimpy margins, large, well-run chains can turn in respectable profits. Kroger's net profit margin, for instance, was just 1.39 percent last year, but that translates into a decent \$350 million on sales of \$25 billion.

Analysts say profitability should

The Checkout Line

Market shares of the top five supermarkets in Atlanta.

Supermarket	Market Share
Kroger	22.0%
Winn-Dixie	14.8%
Publix	9.1%
Food Lion	8.1%
A.P.P.	5.2%

1996	Market Share
Kroger	23.6%
Publix	14.4%
Winn-Dixie	10.4%
Food Lion	7.2%
Ingles	6.4%

Source: Circulation Associates

continue to edge up for the overall industry, between further cost-cutting and consolidations that are trimming purchasing, administrative, distribution and advertising expenses and giving grocers more clout with their suppliers.

The industry makeover and the increased competition is fine by Ms. Edelman, the Roswell, Ga., woman who attends the Kroger cooking school in Alpharetta. She frequents several stores, depending on her needs. For recipe ingredients after class, she shops at Kroger. "But actually, for my produce, I go to Harry's Market," she said.

Already, the struggle to win the loyalty of customers like Ms. Edelman is taking a toll on some grocers. Winn-Dixie, long the No. 2 chain in



"Customer care center" of a Kroger supermarket near Atlanta includes a dry-cleaning service. Shoppers can also renew driver's licenses.

Atlanta, behind Kroger, fell last year to third place, the victim of an assault on the market by Publix, a Lakeland, Fla., chain closely held by its employees.

SIX years ago, when Ed Crenshaw, then a Publix executive vice president, pulled out his corporate credit card at a car rental agency in Atlanta, the clerk asked, "What is Publix?" and wanted to know if the name was spelled incorrectly.

"We knew we would have to do a lot of work to develop the brand up here," said Mr. Crenshaw, now president of the company. So when Publix, looking to expand after saturating its home state, blew into Atlanta in 1991, the company simply offered what it determined was missing: newer, cleaner stores, more service and fresher perishable goods. In just five years, Publix claimed 14.4 percent of the Atlanta market.

"We know how to make money," said Frank Hernandez, regional director for Publix in Atlanta. "Once you give people something of value, they will come back. We are not trying to be something other than a food business, so we don't want to have a smorgasbord of things in a food store and then let customers forget about food and the essential things that we built this business on."

Customers say the approach is working. "I used to shop at A.P.P., but I got disappointed with their produce," said Veronique Maltre, a translator who was shopping recently at the Publix store in Alpharetta. Another shopper, Marie Vitalo has become a regular at Publix even though there is a Winn-Dixie store about a block from her house in Smyrna.

"I like a clean, big store," said Ms. Vitalo, who works in accounting.

Winn-Dixie, meanwhile, is determined to use pricing to win back customers like Ms. Vitalo. The parking lot of its Alpharetta store, which competes with two nearby Krogers and one of Wal-Mart's Sam's Club warehouse stores, is festooned with a large blue-and-white banner promising "Lowest prices in town." Inside the store, signs and tags create a virtual sea of markdowns. The signs announce 40 percent off greeting cards, 50 percent off sunglasses, 15 percent off national-brand snack chips and 20 percent off school supplies. Some signs ask simply: "Why pay more?"

"We are in a transition and have been for many years," said Mickey Clerk, a spokesman for Winn-Dixie, based in Jacksonville, Fla. "Customers are stretched for time as well as for money, and what they want to do is find everything they want at the lowest prices they can in one place

that is convenient for them. We were convenient before, but we didn't have the complete variety that today's customers want."

So the company is closing stores throughout its system that are less than 30,000 square feet and replacing them with larger ones — some up to 70,000 square feet — with room for floral departments, pharmacies and bigger delis.

A strategy of low prices and big investments may not seem like a smart game plan in one of Winn-Dixie's most competitive markets. But the chain has the resources to wait for weaker operators to fold; meanwhile, it continues to improve its stores to be more competitive with Kroger and Publix.

Some competitors, though, have simply left or are struggling to keep up. Four years ago, Big Star, one of the retail arms of Fleming Companies, the giant food wholesaler, sold its Atlanta stores to A.P.P. and left the market. Yet A.P.P., which has been slow to upgrade its network of older stores, is barely clinging to sixth place in the market.

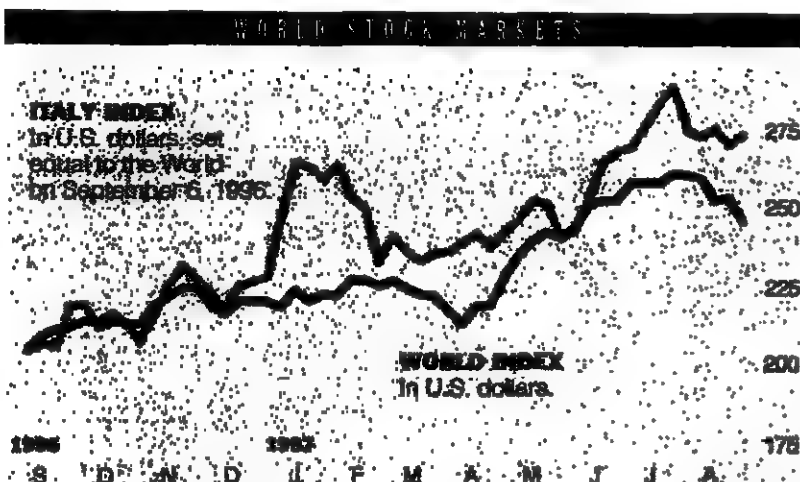
"We were really consolidating," said Michael Rourke, a senior vice president of A.P.P. "A lot of stores we acquired were not up to today's standard and had to be closed."

Grand Union and Piggly Wiggly supermarkets have also sold their Atlanta stores to other competitors, while Harry's Farmers Market, with five stores, hangs on, but has lost more than \$23 million in four years. Even the market leaders have some housecleaning to do. An older Kroger store in the fashionable Buckhead section of Atlanta has dated fixtures and lacks the amenities found in the Alpharetta outlet.

Such shortcomings are becoming less tolerable to Atlanta-area shoppers. Mr. McFarland, who works out at the "cardio-theater" in the Alpharetta Kroger, said he had noticed an overall improvement in the area's supermarkets in recent years, as more companies moved in.

Besides the gym, which is run by Australian Body Works and costs \$5 a visit for walk-ins, Mr. McFarland uses the pharmacy and the Nations-bank branch at the store. The added services have turned him into a Kroger regular when it comes time to shop for groceries.

"You don't want to have to make two stops if you don't have to," said Mr. McFarland, 43, a wine supplier. And he has the sense that packing more into his busy schedule will become even easier as Kroger and the other grocers continue to offer not just better cuts of meat and more brands of cereal, but additional services as well. They have to, he figures, "to keep up with everybody else in the neighborhood."



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actives World Index, a measure of stock market performance. The FT indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

PERFORMANCE		IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURR.			
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	Week % Chg.	YTD % Chg.
Australia	222.93	-3.3	14	0.5	20	3.81	201.89	8.7	
Austria	192.92	1.2	2	1.6	19	1.83	180.47	18.7	
Belgium	235.83	-0.7	7	3.6	17	3.16	216.12	21.2	
Brazil	255.55	-4.0	20	34.7	2	1.43	513.66	41.6	
Britain	307.68	-0.7	8	8.6	14	3.54	281.25	14.6	
Canada	211.75	-1.4	9	11.5	11	1.75	212.90	13.0	
Denmark	379.78	-2.6	13	7.9	15	1.55	354.06	25.4	
Finland	285.19	-3.6	17	16.1	6	1.70	324.40	38.5	
France	217.48	-3.3	15	1.6	18	2.55	206.92	18.5	
Germany	215.18	-3.4	16	13.3	8	1.42	201.37	32.3	
Hong Kong	491.58	-8.5	23	-3.1	21	3.17	489.05	-2.9	
Indonesia	136.93	-22.7	28	-40.0	25	2.62	247.81	-25.1	
Ireland	367.53	0.5	4	11.8	10	2.80	348.21	27.2	
Italy	99.14	1.2	3	18.7	5	1.82	130.36	37.5	
Japan	122.85	-4.3	21	-4.8	22	0.85	93.41	-1.4	
Malaysia	318.61	-19.3	27	-47.2	26	1.95	357.76	-39.0	
Mexico	1,684.13	-7.3	22	36.4	1	1.58	1,453.68	34.8	
Netherlands	386.77	-3.9	19	15.1	7	2.23	357.73	34.8	
New Zealand	87.35	-2.4	12	-4.8	23	4.20	72.56	5.2	
Norway	323.71	2.2	1	9.5	13	1.88	327.50	27.9	
Philippines	106.19	-18.4	26	-47.9	27	1.29	160.88	-39.7	
Singapore	289.45	-12.3	24	-26.7	24	1.51	208.72	-22.9	
South Africa	397.59	-0.2	5	5.0	16	2.49	348.17	6.3	
Spain	242.75	-0.3	6	10.4	12	2.37	279.58	29.1	
Sweden	476.98	-2.0	10	13.1	9	1.86	554.35	30.0	
Switzerland	285.85	-3.7	18	19.8	4	1.27	265.01	32.4	
Thailand	39.00	-15.8	25	-59.3	28	5.87	51.75	-45.7	
United States	366.27	-2.3	11	21.3	3	1.69	366.27	21.3	

COMPOSITE INDICES		Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank
Europe	285.25	-1.9		10.7	2.52
Pacific Basin	137.61	-5.4		7.4	1.38
Europe/Pacific	190.98	-3.4		2.3	2.04
World	249.68	-2.8		11.4	1.86

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1996 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's.

CURRENCIES		Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Exchange rate					
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar		120.81	118.31	+2.10	108.90
German marks to the U.S. dollar		1.8095	1.8186	-0.40	1.4810
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar		1.3883	1.3933	-0.35	1.3881
U.S. dollars to the British pound		1.6200	1.6093	+0.66	1.5647

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

Aug. 25-29: Bonds and Small Stocks Rally; Blue Chips Slump

PRICES

DOMESTIC EQUITIES

Broad market	Down 2.61%
S. & P. 500 index	899.47
Blue chips	Down 3.37%
Dow 30 Industrials	7,622.42
Small capitalization	Up 1.85%
Russell 2000 index	423.43

DOMESTIC BONDS

Treasuries	Up 0.30%
Ryan Labs. Total Return	202.74
Municipals	Up 0.16%
Bond Buyer index	119.69
Corporates	Up 0.35%
Merrill Lynch Master index	893.50

AROUND THE WORLD

European stocks	Down 1.52%
F.T.-Actuaries Europe	266.25
Asian stocks	Down 5.44%
F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin	137.61
Gold	Down 0.70%
New York cash price	\$325.50

Foreign indices are given in dollar terms.

YIELDS

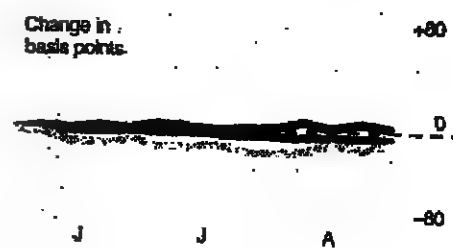
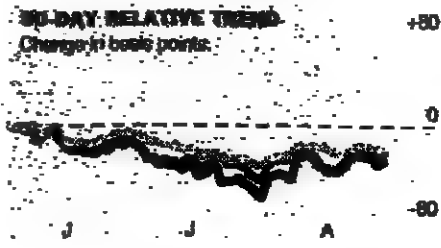
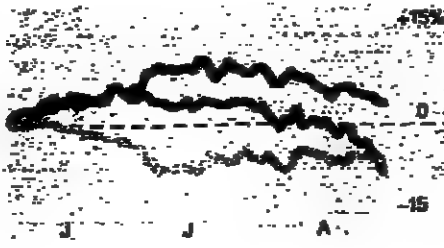
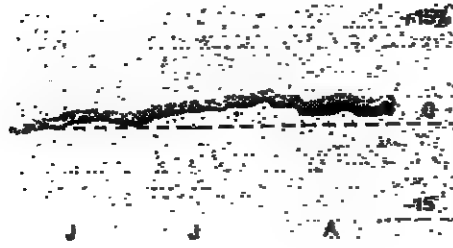
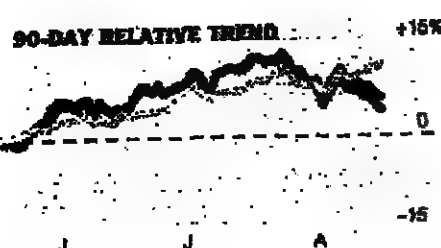
BONDS

Long bonds	6.60%
30-year Treasuries	Down 5 basis pts.
Notes	5.96%
2-year Treasuries	Up 2 basis pts.
Municipals	5.55%
Bond Buyer index	Down 1 basis pt.

100 basis points = 1 percentage point

OTHER INVESTMENTS

Money market funds	5.02%
Taxable average	Down 4 basis pts.
Bank C.D.'s	5.17%
1-year small savers	Unchanged
Stocks	1.71%
S. & P. 500 dividend yield	Up 4 b.p.



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Senator Gorton's Ignoble Crusade

Year after year, legislators load up the Interior Department's spending bill with provisions aimed at satisfying some personal agenda or enriching special interests, usually an industry like logging or mining. Two years ago, for example, Westerners in the 104th Congress snuck into that year's bill a bunch of nefarious riders that would have opened up Alaska's Tongass National Forest for increased logging and accelerated mining on public lands.

It is unusual, however, to find someone with the audacity of Slade Gorton, a Republican Senator from Washington with a 25-year gripe about the Indians. Mr. Gorton, who runs the Interior appropriations subcommittee, exercised a Congressional prerogative known as the "chairman's mark" to add two provisions that would profoundly alter the basic principles of equity that have governed the relationship between Washington and the nation's 554 Indian tribes for more than a century.

These riders are reprehensible on several counts. They would undercut tribal sovereignty and hurt some tribes financially. They were slipped into the bill after perfunctory hearings, no real debate and no serious attempt to draw on the wisdom of a Congress that has a moral obligation to oversee the treatment of the continent's original inhabitants. Mr. Gorton says that he consulted with the Senate's only Indian, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Republican of Colorado. The consultation was not persuasive. Mr. Campbell says the riders will pass only "over my dead body."

Finally, the riders corrupt and may actually kill, by inviting a veto, an otherwise worthy measure that contains essential provisions favored by the Administration and by this page. These include financing for the National Endowment for the Arts and for several important Federal land acquisitions, including the purchase of a potentially ruinous mining operation near Yellowstone Park.

One rider would force the tribes to waive "sovereign immunity" from civil lawsuits or lose up to \$767 million, about half the Federal budget for daily operations on tribal lands occupied by 1.4 million Indians. Mr. Gorton says that sovereign immunity

unfairly shields the tribes from being sued in Federal court. Although individuals can be sued in Federal court, suits against tribes are generally heard in a tribal court. The other rider is a means-testing provision that would base Federal assistance on tribal income. It is aimed, Mr. Gorton says, at redistributing income from tribes that have made money from gambling operations.

Setting aside the fact that only a handful of tribes have made any serious money from gambling, the means-testing provision is flat-out discriminatory. By treaty and statute, Indian tribes are sovereign governments. Yet no other sovereign entity, state or local, has to endure such tests to receive its share of Federal funds.

The measure requiring tribes to waive legal immunity in exchange for Federal funds is not only discriminatory but profoundly ahistorical. First, it would deprive the tribes of a basic protection against frivolous and crippling lawsuits now enjoyed by Federal, state and local governments. Second, elevating the power of Federal courts at the expense of tribal courts amounts to a direct assault on the entire concept of sovereignty. Finally, the Federal dollars that Mr. Gorton would withhold from any tribe that refused to compromise its independence are themselves part of a solemn bargain, consecrated by many individual treaties under which the tribes ceded nearly 100 million acres of land, as well as hunting and fishing rights, in exchange for financial support and other protections.

The tribes believe that Mr. Gorton is driven mainly by personal pique. As Washington's attorney general in the mid-1970's, he argued and lost a landmark Supreme Court case in which the Court upheld Indian fishing rights in the Pacific Northwest. In 1995, he tried to cut \$200 million from the tribes' \$1.7 billion annual appropriation. Whatever his motives, Mr. Gorton has no business trying to undermine a time-honored relationship with provisions that have been slipped into the legislative mill under cover of darkness. Even if Congress wants to transform that relationship, which is doubtful, it should tackle the issue in full, open debate.

The Vallone Hearings

The Louima brutality case is an ugly reminder that New York City has yet to establish a strong, independent body to monitor and investigate police misconduct. The City Council created such an agency in 1994, but Mayor Rudolph Giuliani vetoed the bill. When the Council overrode the veto, the Mayor successfully challenged the bill in court on the grounds that it infringed on executive authority.

City Council President Peter Vallone has now amended the bill and scheduled hearings for later next month, beginning Sept. 23. It deserves widespread support, including the Mayor's.

Mr. Vallone maintains that the Police Department is incapable of policing itself in a consistent fashion and always lapses into complacency when scrutiny fades. His proposed Independent Police Investigation and Audit Board would leave the primary responsibility with the police commission-

er, the department's Internal Affairs Bureau and the district attorneys. The board would confer with and advise those offices, but, crucially, it would have its own investigators and subpoena powers.

The board would consist of five people chosen by the mayor, in consultation with the City Council. It would make recommendations to the Police Department on the formulation and implementation of anti-corruption programs and could also suggest structural improvements in the anti-corruption effort. The net effect would be to make lapses, and horrors like the Louima case, less likely.

The hearings in the City Council could easily provide a platform for the anger and division that the Louima episode has already aroused. It would be unfortunate if that happened. Mr. Vallone's plan is a sound one that deserves a calm and reasoned discussion.

Editorial Notebook

Where Even Cops Get Robbed

JOHANNESBURG
Crime, or more precisely a rising fear of crime, has become the most serious threat to the success of South Africa's fledgling democratic government. Even a short-time visitor to the nation's chief commercial city is struck by its beleaguered atmosphere. Tour guides warn you not to venture out alone unless you know where you are going. Hotels have ramped down their operations, and many businesses have fled to the suburbs. Whole blocks of apartments have been taken over by drug dealers. Residents of the tonier suburbs live behind walls topped with barbed wire and protected by private security firms, their bedrooms sealed off by internal rape-prevention gates.

The statistics are appalling. South Africa's murder rate is eight times that of the United States, its rape rate three times as high. But the crimes that most disturb residents are brazen carjackings, hijackings and robberies that can hit literally anyone. The president of the nation's top constitutional court was robbed at gunpoint in his own driveway. The police superintendent of a crime-ridden slum was robbed of his car and valuables by gun-toting thugs. Various police stations have been looted of an automated teller machine, a supply of cash and diamonds, and electronic equipment in what were either brazen robberies or inside jobs.

The only encouraging trend is that crime is no longer spiraling out of control. The latest quarterly figures show all categories of serious crime either holding steady or declining, albeit at high levels. Government officials are not certain whether crime has really gotten a lot worse than under the previous apartheid regime or whether it has simply invaded previously white areas that had been protected by a repressive police state. Some officials contend that the problem has been exaggerated. But there is no doubt that fear of crime is having an adverse impact. People who emigrate cite it as one of their reasons for leaving. Businesses cite it as a deterrent to expanding their operations. Government officials fear that it may deter badly needed foreign investment.

"Crime is probably the most serious obstacle in the path of our political, economic and social transformation," says Azhar Cachalia, the central Government's secretary for safety and security. "Democracy can only flourish where our people feel safe and in fact are safe in

South Africa's Crime Problem

their homes, their businesses and their streets."

The roots of the crime problem lie deep. Widespread poverty, a 40 percent unemployment rate and appalling social conditions are a breeding ground for criminals who now have easy access to richer neighborhoods with their tempting targets. Illegal guns are plentiful, and more open borders since apartheid have allowed criminal syndicates to flood the country with drugs and to traffic in stolen cars, setting off a wave of carjackings. The police in some areas seem overwhelmed, with detectives handling up to 80 cases at a time, four times the number deemed manageable. Some police engage in criminal activities and corruption themselves.

"So far the police have been incredibly inattentive and ineffective," says William Bratton, the former New York City Police Commissioner, who now runs a private consulting firm that sought to advise the South Africans on crime control. Indeed, on a half-hour tour of downtown Johannesburg in the company of a police official, I saw little evidence of a police presence. The most visible sign of authority was in a violence-ridden suburban slum where military troops manned roadblocks and my police escort rode with his gun unholstered.

The Government is approaching the problem with a long-term strategy to improve the training and professionalism of police and to develop effective interaction between police and communities that have long feared and hated the men in uniform. A business executive has been brought in to improve the management and allocation of resources, and consultants have helped some police stations overcome a shocking inability to keep their police and vehicles on patrol. At several stations I saw evidence that residents are beginning to support and help the police, even providing tips that help catch criminals. But it will all take time.

Meanwhile, some 5,000 new police officers and civilians are being hired, and the Government will focus additional police resources on Johannesburg and a few other high-visibility areas that have a disproportionate impact on the nation's image abroad. That could drain resources from some of the poor black areas that helped vote the Mandela Government into office. It could be a risky political choice, but it is one the Government feels it must make if South Africa's promising democratic revolution is to succeed. PHILIP M. BOFFEY

Learning Disabled Aren't Seeking Excuses

To the Editor:

Re "Extra Credit for Doing Poorly" (Op-Ed, Aug. 25):

I was 8 years old when doctors diagnosed attention deficit disorder. Today, I am entering my sophomore year at Stanford. Robert J. Sternberg's examples do not represent typical accommodations for learning-disabled students. Most such students need one or two accommodations. I ask for note takers in lecture classes and the use of a computer for taking essay tests, because writing by hand is difficult for me. None of these accommodations make it possible for me to succeed in a class without knowing the material.

I agree with Mr. Sternberg that "even students with genuine disabilities should not be able to use them as an excuse for not learning." However, I disagree with his implication that this behavior is typical. Most such students are distressed at "having something wrong with them" and prefer minimal accommodations. Most are small modifications within the curriculum, not changes to it. MIKE L. GINSBERG
Bloomfield Hills, Mich., Aug. 27, 1997

Easy Out Can Hurt

To the Editor:

As a clinical psychologist and dyslexic reader, I applaud Robert J. Sternberg's Aug. 25 Op-Ed article. It has been my personal and professional observation that growth and development occur as a result of learning to overcome handicaps, hardships and disabilities. As a society we have lost the ability to distinguish between knowing when to give a helping hand that can enable a person to move forward and preventing learning by allowing the label to become an excuse.

I once complained to one of my psychology professors that I had difficulty doing a required task because of my dyslexia. He reminded me that I had acquired the ability to get this far in my education despite my disability and that he expected me to continue to use those same abilities to perform all my tasks regardless of their difficulty. His confidence in my ability and perseverance was more useful in the long run than giving me an easy out. HILDA KESSLER
Berkeley, Calif., Aug. 28, 1997

Soft Diagnoses

To the Editor:

Since both my oldest daughter and I have been diagnosed with attention deficit disorder, I must respond to Robert J. Sternberg's Aug. 25 Op-Ed article about the disorder. He is right to be skeptical.

The psychologist who diagnosed my daughter recommended that I invoke Section 504 of the 1973 Civil Rights Act to insure that she get the "accommodations" she needs. However, Section 504, with its broad language, is subject to misuse. I told my daughter's principal that it sounded as though, if I invoked that law, I could make him do anything I wanted. He said, "That's right."

I cannot emphasize enough how soft the definitions of these "disabilities" are: in the case of attention deficit disorder, it is safe to say that there is no adult of average intelligence who does not present symptoms. FREDERICK E. BARTLETT
Mercersburg, N.J., Aug. 25, 1997

Not 'Lazy and Neurotic'

To the Editor:

Robert J. Sternberg's Aug. 25 Op-Ed article is basically an attack on the needs of unique students. I became aware of the problem when my son had difficulty in language and writing at his university. Psychological testing resulted in a diagnosis that permitted special attention.

At that time at the University of California at Berkeley, there were no students classified as learning-disabled. A dean who was also a psychologist said that my son and others like him were lazy and neurotic. But he was overruled by the administration,

which had to comply with the recently enacted Americans With Disabilities Act. My son was given help, a tape recorder, editing assistance and more and graduated with high grades.

He took the Graduate Record Exam without assistance and did poorly. He retook the test under the regulations that gave him extra time, proceeded to get the highest of scores, was chased by graduate schools in his chosen field and went on to complete a Ph.D. Mr. Sternberg's statement that these students are getting too much help is neither helpful nor correct. Our job is to find these students and give them the help they need. LEONARD J. DUHL, M.D.
Berkeley, Calif., Aug. 25, 1997

Professional Deficits?

To the Editor:

Robert J. Sternberg (Op-Ed, Aug. 25) brings up a puzzling subject: the

matter of students with "learning disability" and "attention deficit disorder." I often wonder why students who cannot learn or pay attention should be admitted to college. Do we train people who cannot walk to be tennis players or people who cannot see to become painters?

Many colleges are suffering from financial malnutrition and are compelled to relax their admission standards. They often admit students with "learning disabilities" and give them privileges that other students do not have.

Some might graduate, but then what? Will graduate schools also welcome them? And if they graduate, will they find work? Would anyone want to seek the services of doctors or lawyers with attention deficit disorder? TIBOR FARKAS
Plainville, N.Y., Aug. 25, 1997

Failure and Avoidance

To the Editor:

As a child psychiatrist and psychologist with an interest in learning disabilities, I object to Robert J. Sternberg's assertions ("Extra Credit for Doing Poorly," Op-Ed, Aug. 25). While any disability assistance program can be subject to abuses, such abuses do not have any bearing on the legitimacy of the disability and the needs of individuals so diagnosed.

Unlike adults, children and adolescents are required to perform tasks and master skills from the range of cognitive endeavors. Adults have the luxury of dedicating themselves to their sphere of excellence and are not penalized or impeded in their career if they show no aptitude for unrelated disciplines.

The argument that individuals with superior talents will emerge despite the obstacles ignores the daily humiliations and suffering of children who struggle mightily in conventional learning situations over some of the tasks demanded of them, tasks "we growups" no longer face.

Moreover, Dr. Sternberg shows a misunderstanding of learning disabilities if he believes that "failing" will help individuals with disabilities "correct [their] weaknesses." There is no evidence to suggest that failure due to learning disabilities facilitates anything but avoidance, behavioral problems and psychological distress. KAREN GILMORE, M.D.
New York, Aug. 26, 1997

anything but avoidance, behavioral problems and psychological distress. KAREN GILMORE, M.D.
New York, Aug. 26, 1997

Overjoyed Parents?

To the Editor:

As a special education teacher and the parent of three children, one of whom has learning disabilities, I am dismayed by Robert J. Sternberg's Aug. 25 Op-Ed article.

If there are parents who are overjoyed when their children are diagnosed with learning disabilities and are therefore eligible for testing modifications, tutoring and exemption from certain subjects, I have yet to meet them. If students need to learn the difference between living with a disability and using it as an excuse, that's the job of teachers and those who train teachers. None of this justifies attempts to deny students the help they need.

Perhaps Mr. Sternberg would prefer the learning disabled take the more traditional path of smart children who cannot succeed in school: dropout drug dealers, gang leaders and criminals. CARYN BENJAMIN
Brooklyn, Aug. 25, 1997

Level Field at Last

To the Editor:

Re "Extra Credit for Doing Poorly" (Op-Ed, Aug. 25): Why not forbid students to wear eyeglasses or hearing aids, too? And while we're at it, why not eliminate the requirement of full access for those in wheelchairs? If physics is being taught only on the second floor and a student can't get there, that's life.

Robert J. Sternberg cites no studies or other evidence to support his claim that special accommodations are doing the learning disabled more harm than good and that they are being set up for failure later on.

Considering that many such students are of superior intelligence and were never given the opportunity to exhibit their abilities before accommodations were made, perhaps what is really happening is that the playing field is being leveled. Rather than being set up for failure, these students are being given the chance to succeed. STEVEN H. LEVIN
Briarcliff, N.Y., Aug. 25, 1997

Missing Compassion

To the Editor:

What a relief that Robert J. Sternberg feels that failure is a great asset for the learning-disabled child ("Extra Credit for Doing Poorly," Op-Ed, Aug. 25)! He is surely an example to all of us with children like those he describes. After all, it would seem that he, too, has failed — in compassion and understanding, and yet he can be published as an authority on your Op-Ed page. ELLEN MCHUGH
Brooklyn, Aug. 27, 1997

Everything's an Illness

To the Editor:

Robert J. Sternberg (Op-Ed, Aug. 25) inadvertently identifies the major cause of the problem that the United States faces in learning disabilities: the American Psychiatric Association and its Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (fourth edition). According to D.S.M.-IV, just about any human behavior is "mental illness." The label "learning disabled" has been pinned on a million children in this country because according to D.S.M.-IV, they have "attention deficit hyperactivity disorder." Why? Because they "fidget," "can't concentrate," "stare out the window," "daydream" or "won't wait their turn." Any of these behaviors can result in a diagnosis of attention deficit disorder.

Until the public and the education establishment wake up to what the American Psychiatric Association is perpetrating in the name of help, more children will be getting the message that there is no point in trying to better themselves. MORT HARRIES
Haworth, N.J., Aug. 25, 1997

Dangerous Medicine

To the Editor:

Your Aug. 28 article reports the Pentagon's admission that 20,000 American troops from the 1940's through the mid-1960's may be at risk for head and neck cancer because they received radiation treatments for inner-ear ailments.

The procedure involved pushing a rod containing radium through each nostril and placing it against the opening of the eustachian tubes.

This procedure was not restricted to the military. As a child I underwent precisely the same procedure at a New York hospital for an ear problem in the late 1960's. Over the years I have had nagging concerns over the procedure, but this is the first I have heard of its potential effects.

Not only the military but civilian medical facilities as well have an obligation to track down recipients of this procedure for treatment and compensation. EDWIN EFFICH
Glendale, Queens, Aug. 28, 1997

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic mail to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3958.

Gore Didn't Break Spirit of Campaign Law

To the Editor:

Your Aug. 28 editorial criticizes Vice President Gore for violating the "spirit" of the law when he made fund-raising calls from his office. I disagree.

The law is driven by a concern about intimidation — that the person solicited might fear that a refusal to contribute will result in an unfavorable action by the Government. But the law prohibits only solicitations made on Federal property. Its spirit is revealed by that narrow focus: one who enters a Government building should not be confronted at that mo-

ment with a request for money. It is based on the premise that an in-person visit carries a greater potential for intimidation than other kinds of solicitations.

Had the Vice President made the calls from across the street on his cell phone, the law would not have been applicable. Since the potential for intimidation by a phone solicitation is the same no matter where the call is made from, it makes no sense to say the spirit of the law was violated when Mr. Gore made calls from his office. MITCHELL M. GANS
Hempstead, N.Y., Aug. 29, 1997

The writer is a professor of law at Hofstra University.

To the Editor:

Only one fact was missing from your Aug. 28 front-page article on the indictment of Mike Espy, the former Secretary of Agriculture.

Even more outrageous than his unabashed arrogance and deceit was the fact that the investigation itself cost nearly \$9 million.

Tickets to a Bulls game? The Super Bowl? A steak dinner? Gee, you would think that investigators could have tracked down \$35,000 worth of crime for a lot less than that. After all, it's not as if he went to the U.S. Open tennis. KATHRYN MANNIX
Washington, Aug. 28, 1997

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In America
BOB HERBERTMaybe
This
Time

Emerson said: "There are people who have an appetite for grief. Pleasure is not strong enough and they crave pain."

We know who those people are. They are the fans of the New York Jets.

It is a sickness, this rooting for the Jets. Year after year, decade after decade, I have watched this team in its sparkling green and white uniforms trot onto the field at the beginning of the season and I have hoped, passionately hoped, for a winner. Almost always, they lose.

Not long ago the Jets fired a coach who had lost his last five games and replaced him with one who had lost his last seven. Two years ago the team won 3 games and lost 13, the worst record in professional football. Fans prayed that the nadir had been reached, and cheered during the off season as the team spent an incredible \$80 million to lure new and presumably better players. It didn't work. Last year the team won 1 game and lost 15.

I have grown from a skinny teenager to a middle-aged man with this team, following it faithfully in a kind of time warp as so many other things changed, as Vietnam came and went, as the cold war drew to its conclusion, as Lyndon Johnson gave way to Richard Nixon, and so on, through Ford and Carter and Reagan and Bush and Clinton.

There was one brief burst of glory in 1969, when Joe Namath led the team to an upset of the Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III, but that was followed by more than a quarter of a century of notoriously bad football. During that period the Jets fielded some of the worst teams in the history of pro sports.

"Rooting for the Jets," said a longtime fan, "is like reading novels in which all the good parts have been cut out."

"It's a lifelong torment," said another fan. "We sit out there in the pouring rain, in the snow. There should be a 12-step program for us."

Now, like compulsive gamblers with their rationalizations at the ready, Jets fans are entering yet

For Jets fans,
hope springs
eternal.

another season of hope. This time it is Bill Parcells, one of the great coaches of recent years, who is supposed to lead us to the promised land, otherwise known as the playoffs.

Mr. Parcells, a tough guy, has counseled us to forget the traumas of the past, to shed them like a ratty, threadbare coat. History means nothing, he says. But that's his opinion. Mr. Parcells has been to three Super Bowls in the last dozen years. Jets fans, on the other hand, are a fearful lot. We have endured so much.

More than 3.6 billion people have been born since the Jets won the Super Bowl, and 1.3 billion have died. To get an idea of how really long ago it was, consider the following: Man had not yet walked on the moon. Earl Warren was still the Chief Justice of the United States. Bill Clinton was 22 years old. Bill Gates was 13. Katie Couric had just turned 12.

What fan, delirious from the triumph engineered by the gimpy-kneed Namath and his upstart teammates, could possibly have known that it would be almost a steadily downhill ride from then until the turn of the millennium?

And what fan, having hung on throughout that terrible ride, can be confident now that things are changing? We have been teased so many times before. I remember a nationally televised Monday night game in 1991. The Jets were in the midst of yet another supposed renaissance. Not only had they changed coaches, they had changed the design of their uniforms. And they had a highly touted running back named Blair Thomas. Speedy. Powerful. Good. That's what we were told.

The Jets were leading the Chicago Bears 13-6 with less than two minutes to play. The game was in the bag. The Jets had possession and all they had to do was hang on to the ball to win. The quarterback handed off to Blair Thomas, and he promptly fumbled. The Bears quickly scored and won the game in overtime.

The Times ran a headline the next day that said: "Maybe Somebody Up There Doesn't Like the Jets."

Once again we have a new coach (the fourth in five years) and the team is contemplating a uniform change. But the fans are the same. We cannot help ourselves. We want to believe that this time will be different. We are following Mr. Parcells.

The season opener is today, against the Seahawks in Seattle. The kickoff is at 4 P.M. I can't wait.

What's Ahead for Working Men and Women

Twenty-five years ago, had anyone ever heard of "telecommuting" to work? Twenty years ago, was there such a thing as a "contract worker"? The working world isn't what it used to be, and more change, no doubt, lies ahead. What can American workers expect in the future? Here are a few scary — and optimistic — answers.

Paul Krugman is a professor of economics at M.I.T.

Most people assume that the jobs of the future will be related to the technologies of the future. They imagine that we will become a society of telecommuting nerds.

Historically, however, the opposite has happened: job growth tends to be greatest in the occupations that new technology affects the least. We have become supremely efficient at growing food; that is why there are so few farmers.

In the Labor Department's list of "occupations with the largest job growth," the top five categories are cashiers, janitors and cleaners, salespeople, waiters and waitresses, and nurses. All of these jobs involve "being there" — having face-to-face contact with the consumer, or dealing in a hands-on way with the unpredictable messiness of the physical world. To put it a bit differently: the typical worker of the 21st century will be doing precisely the kinds of thing that you can't do over the Internet.

Lester C. Thurow is a professor of economics at M.I.T.

The era of lifelong company jobs with regular promotions and annual real wage increases is over. It is your responsibility to manage your own lifetime career. But you won't have a lifetime career.

No one can manage his or her own career without a road map, and economic road maps cannot be drawn unless there are career ladders across companies. And they simply don't exist.

In Europe, the Middle Ages saw vast numbers of masterless laborers wandering back and forth across the countryside. Walled cities and towns were the answer. The Japanese talk about the chaos of having samurai without masters. Our future is the masterless American laborer, wandering from employer to employer, unable to build a career.

Studs Terkel is the author of "My American Century."

With the teamsters' astonishing victory against United Parcel Service, a word long considered quaint — solidarity — has found a new resonance among the great many, hitherto unconcerned. How come? Consider the pervasiveness of part-timers and temps in the workplace. Less pay, fewer benefits, no security.

You, a long-time, full-time employee of the company, seemingly secure, find yourself side by side with a part-timer or temp. What's to prevent you from becoming one of them if it's to the advantage of Mr. Big? Subliminally, images of George and Lenny appear. John Steinbeck's ranch hands — part-timers, temps — may have worked in the fields. Today,

George and Lenny work in banks, law firms, insurance companies or perhaps at your workplace. You bet you're concerned.

Arlie Russell Hochschild is the author of "The Time Bind: When Work Becomes Home and Home Becomes Work."

In the next great shift, the American work force will bifurcate into two groups, the overworked and the underworked. Fewer of us will strike that elusive balance between work and the rest of our lives. Every time a company downsizes, it exacerbates this split.

Workers who are let go will face a market filled with jobs less secure, less well paid, more often temporary or part time than the ones they had before. They will wonder how to plan family events and pay next month's rent. For those who work long hours in understaffed offices or factories, home becomes a branch office in which to schedule brief "appointments" with loved ones at home.

Scott Adams is the author of "The Dilbert Future: Thriving on Stupidity in the 21st Century."

The biggest change in the workplace of the future will be the widespread realization that having one idiot boss is a much higher risk than

having many idiot clients. Employees will flee their corporate jobs in increasing numbers, setting up shop as independent contractors. Every person will be a microbusiness.

I base this prediction on two forces. The first is economics. Contract employees have less management burden. They don't have to attend mandatory safety meetings, mandatory diversity-awareness classes, or mandatory anything. They just work. A contract employee can charge double the cost of a regular employee and still be a bargain.

The second factor: a growing popular understanding of the relative risk of working alone versus the risk of working for one person who can fire you or make you miserable.

When enough people fire their bosses and succeed on their own, it will become increasingly obvious that the greatest risk is a failure to diversify your boss's influence on your fate. That will be a bad time to be a boss.

William Julius Wilson, a professor of social policy at Harvard, is the author of "When Work Disappears."

With changes in technology and the globalization of the economy, knowledge-based industries will soon dwarf all other industries in the economies of Western nations. While many better-

educated workers will benefit from these changes, the demand for low-skilled workers will plummet to the lowest depths in human history. In the United States, this pattern will be reflected in extreme and growing wage differentials between the economic haves and have nots.

Increased trade with developing countries will aggravate the economic woes of low-skilled workers. A good deal of domestic production will be displaced by imported products. However, the depressed wages of low-skilled workers will lower the economic incentive to import these products. Nonetheless, the growing wage inequality will enhance economic class antagonisms. As the recognition grows that diminishing wages cut across all groups, political pressures to address this problem with domestic programs will become increasingly multiracial in nature.

Elizabeth Perle McKenna is the author of "When Work Doesn't Work Anymore."

The unfinished women's revolution continues. For all this country's talk about valuing families, we all still work in a world where we're best rewarded if we pretend we don't have any. This fantasy has persevered largely because women, out of

necessity, have focused on getting the jobs they deserve, not changing a business culture.

As more women work, our values and needs come with us. Since business must attract and keep talented women, the shift to a "humanized" work world has begun, led by the half of the human race still primarily responsible for taking the dog to the vet.

This shift will mean work environments where careers aren't traumatized by the birth of a child, where "flex time" and "job sharing" aren't synonyms for "mommy track," where companies see the wisdom and profit of less stressed-out workers, and where the definition of success is rewritten to include balance, meaning and connection as much as money, power and prestige.

Michael Moore has just completed "The Big One," a documentary.

I believe the next big labor trend will be the exciting new growth industry of privately owned prisons. For years we've had to settle with accepting inferior products made by inmates in far-off countries. I bought an umbrella made in China the other day and the darn thing fell apart before I even got home. I thought, "If this had been made by American prisoners with good ol' American know-how, I'd be dry."

Why should we go all the way to China to have things made with prison labor when we can do that right here? Many American companies are already doing this. We have the largest prison population ever, and there are only so many license plates to be made.

What an underutilized resource! Why not convert all our closed-down factories into sparkling new prisons? All we have to do to get our old jobs back is turn to a life of crime.

Albert J. Dunlap is chairman and chief executive of the Sunbeam Corporation.

The key to economic growth in the global economy is the freedom and flexibility inherent in America's free enterprise system. But too many workers have not been able to reap the benefits.

This is why some of America's most innovative companies have developed a policy that should become a model: awarding stock options to all workers. A piece of equity in the company should not be traded for wage concessions, but rather be provided in addition to regular compensation. Stock options do more than just increase employee compensation. They shake up the corporate culture and change employee attitudes. Waste gets eliminated, supplies are used more effectively, and employee time is used more productively. It's high time for all C.E.O.'s and boards of directors to take the lead and turn workers from renters into owners.

Claudia Shear is an actress and the author of the play "Blown Sideways Through Life."

To me, the next great shift for American workers as they drift, tethered together only by computer cables in the arid landscape of the communication revolution, is that there isn't anyone to order lunch in with and split the fries.

Old Saws, Sharpened

In which an assortment of commentators, wiseacres, actual working folks and people with nothing better to do were asked to put a 1997 type of spin on five classic snippets of labor-related Americana.

All work and no play . . .

... makes Jack a dull boy.

Proverb

... makes Jack want to appear on the cover of George magazine without his clothes on. Wait, maybe that should be all play and no work.

Christopher Corbett
Baltimore writer

... pretty well describes Tom Stoppard's "Arcadia."

Gordon Osmond
Manhattan playwright

... makes Jack a Type A personality with cardiovascular problems desperately trying to ditch his time share in Florida while sweating out a securities investigation.

Will Durst
Host of PBS's "Livelihood"

You load 16 tons, whaddya get?

... Another day older, and deeper in debt.

Folk song

... Four hours of paperwork and an OSHA inspect.

Will Durst

... A passenger with a lot of luggage who's only going three blocks.

Chris Moriarty
New York cabbie

... Actually, you don't get 16

tons, because this package is sold by volume, not weight. Contents may have settled during shipping and handling. So maybe you get 11 tons. Whaddaya want?

Christopher Corbett
Gordon Osmond

... A teamsters' strike against U.P.S.

Stephanie Robbins
Illinois lawyer

... If you're a workfare mother, \$3.15 an hour. If you're a school custodian, \$10.35 an hour. If you're a nursing home aide, \$8 to \$15 an hour. If you're with U.P.S. full time, \$17 an hour. If you're a new public school teacher, \$24,000 a year. If you're Bill Gates, sometimes \$1 million a day.

Susan Jane Gilman
Washington writer

I put 24 years into this firm, Howard, and now I can't pay my insurance! You can't . . .

... eat the orange and throw the peel away — a man is not a piece of fruit!

Willy Loman
"Death of a Salesman"

... have my Bud Light.

Chris Moriarty

... expect me to continue to survive by supplementing my pay with company office supplies.

Ron Schultz
Seattle administrative analyst

... believe the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act will cure the problem.

Stephanie Robbins

You shall not press down upon the brow of labor . . .

... this crown of thorns.

William Jennings Bryan

... the whims of young whipper-snappers with M.B.A.'s.

Sue Ann Boehme
Memphis businesswoman

... Try the chest for a better chance at resuscitation.

Gordon Osmond

... ever. That's their really sensitive spot. It really makes them mad when you touch them there. Touching that brow area wakes up the union movement. And then there'll be heck to pay.

Andy Valvur
San Francisco comedian

I don't wanna work, just want . . .

... to bang on the drum all day.

Todd Rundgren song

... to sue.

Matthew Scully
Virginia writer

... to shop the Internet all day.

Ron Schultz

... to be waited on hand and foot by nubile houseboys while I write my feminist discourse.

Susan Jane Gilman

... my husband to.

Cynthia Kaplan
Manhattan actress

... to press down upon the brow of labor this crown of thorns.

Christopher Corbett

... to have the American Dream handed to me by my parents.

Andy Valvur

THE ARTS

On Film, World War II is Still a Moral Minefield

By ANNETTE INSDORF

WORLD WAR II may have ended in 1945, but the shadows cast by its devastation still permeate contemporary cinema. At least three movies about to open — "My Mother's Courage," "A Self-Made Hero" and "The Long Way Home" — attest not only to the continuing fascination that the war holds for filmmakers as well as audiences but also to a historical reckoning. All of these films probe degrees of governmental guilt, from the Nazis' Final Solution, to French collaboration, to United States immigration quotas.

Each movie has a distinct context, form and set of concerns. From Germany, Michael Verhoeven's film "My Mother's Courage" is the fictional reconstruction of a true story about the deportation of a Hungarian-Jewish woman. From France, Jacques Audiard's "A Self-Made Hero" is a fictional film that questions the image of France as a resisting nation. And from the United States, "The Long Way Home" is a documentary, directed by Mark Wieselstein, that traces the postwar period when tens of thousands of European refugees attempted the clandestine voyage to Palestine.

Mr. Verhoeven, 59, is best known for another exploration of wartime Germany and its legacy, "The Nasty Girl" (1990). That film was based on the true story of a young Bavarian woman who after the war encountered obstacles to writing an essay with the title "My Town During the Third Reich." Earlier, he directed "The White Rose" (1982), a dramatic reconstruction of a student group that fought the Nazis. "My Mother's Courage" can be seen as the third part of a trilogy that confronts German wartime guilt as well as postwar amnesia.

Based on a play by George Tabori that was first staged in 1978, the film takes place during one summer day in 1944: Elsa Tabori (Pauline Collins)

with a smile, and his voice-over narration begins; newsreel images of Germany's famed Babelsberg Studio are accompanied by another male voice, which turns out to be that of Joseph Goebbels, Hitler's propaganda chief; and on the set of the film, Mr. Tabori's 80th birthday is celebrated by cast and crew.

Let a filmmaker himself feel guilty for "using" the Holocaust to make a fictional film, this self-conscious layering provides a "frame" — and a reminder that what is inside the frame is fabricated — Mr. Verhoeven, who is not Jewish, explained in an interview. "We have no right to assert that this is reality," he said, "precisely because it is a true story."

"No, it is only a reflection," he continued. "The dimensions of this horror, of this truth, are so unimaginable that I could never really reproduce them. This is why I make it clear that it is a film, a performance."

"My Mother's Courage," which won both the Bavarian Film Prize in Germany last year and a special award from the 1997 Jerusalem Film Festival, contains visual allusions to movies like "The Great Dictator" by Charles Chaplin and "Shoah" by Claude Lanzmann. These are Mr. Verhoeven's way of acknowledging that his movie is part of a now-established international genre, the Holocaust film, and that there are dangers inherent in a form like the docudrama, which purports to recreate history.

"Cinema can only approximate reality," he insisted. "The more perfectly cinema is able to imitate reality, the more questionable I find it — particularly with this subject. I would rather use drastic changes of style, including slapstick and homage to films, so we all know, 'This is cinema.'"

"While I admire the intentions and effect of films such as 'Schindler's List,'" he continued, referring to Steven Spielberg's 1993 film, "I have to find my own way — a more European, German way — of depicting these events, which are an important



Pauline Collins and Ulrich Tukur in Michael Verhoeven's "My Mother's Courage" — Only a reflection of history.

the true stories of others, fabricating a new identity as a member of the French Resistance. He earns the trust of those in power and is promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

MR. AUDIARD offers a wry view of just how easy it was to invent a past in the confusion of 1944 and 1945. "This was when the great lie that gave birth to my generation was built up, namely France as a war resister," he said, speaking after a screening of his movie at the Telluride Film Festival in Colorado last year. "This is a country that after five years of zealous collaboration tries to reconstruct its identity and its virtue around a great lie."

"A Self-Made Hero" is part of a rich cinematic tradition that began with Marcel Ophüls's "Sorrow and the Pity." It consists of films that explore and ultimately expose how victims of Nazism had more to fear from French denunciation or arrest than from German occupiers.

Claude Berri's latest movie, "Lucie Aubrac," released in France this year, probes even more painfully into the betrayal of French Resistance heroes by one of their own. But "Lucie Aubrac" — based, like "My Mother's Courage," on the true story of one woman's bravery combined with luck — has been questioned by some French critics for what they see as its melodramatic or old-fashioned form. While World War II is still haunting filmmakers — even after movies ranging from François Truffaut's "Last Metro" (1980) to Louis Malle's "Au Revoir, les Enfants" (1987) — the originality of the European approach in the 1990's seems to lie in its irony.

Like "My Mother's Courage," "A Self-Made Hero" includes an eye-winking device that distances the viewer: an older Albert (Jean-Louis Trintignant) recounts the tale to the camera, and we see musicians playing. Subsequent shots of the orchestra self-consciously reveal that they are performing the soundtrack of the movie. Mr. Audiard thus fulfills an adage of Jean-Luc Godard: "The only reality in a film is the reality of its own making."

When it comes to documentaries, "reality" is a problematic term indeed. And "The Long Way Home" — like the two previous films produced by the Simon Wiesenthal Center, "Genocide" and "Liberation" — presents powerful historical material, with actors reading the testimony of survivors and other central participants from the end of World War II.

Narrated by Morgan Freeman, "The Long Way Home," which is opening on Sept. 19, confronts national guilt based on indifference, for example how little was done for Eu-

rope's doomed Jews by nations, including the United States. It shows how insult was added to injury when the survivors were imprisoned again in displaced-persons camps, whose conditions were only slightly better than those of the concentration camps. The film also presents the refugees' efforts to get to Palestine, and Britain's heartless attempts to block them. As the narration explains, bankrupt Britain's policy was based on its need for oil, which was to be found only in the Arab world.

When asked about the context for "The Long Way Home," the director cited acclaimed documentaries like "Shoah" and Alain Resnais's "Night and Fog" as examples of films that have already documented the depravity of the concentration camps. "But," Mr. Harris continued, "few films have dealt with the experiences the survivors faced in the displaced-persons camps afterward — the indifference and hostility, the irony of being liberated but not free."

Just as the fleeing Jewish passengers on the ocean liner St. Louis were denied the chance to disembark in America during World War II, the illegal ship Exodus 1947, crammed with Holocaust survivors, was not permitted to land in Palestine two years after the war ended. Archival film and witnesses recall how the refugees were forced back to camps in Germany. Even legal immigration quotas in the United States were not met because some right-wing politicians and patriotic organizations opposed admitting the refugees. Ultimately, fear of Communist infiltration overrode compassion.

"My primary purpose in making the film, though, was not to damn America and Britain for their postwar conduct toward the Jews, or to explore their guilt," Mr. Harris said, "but to examine how all of us — people as well as nations — respond to survivors of such overwhelming pain and tragedy. Most of all, I wanted to look at how the survivors themselves managed to begin again."

Whether the aim of filmmakers is to honor the survivors or to educate younger viewers with cautionary tales, movies like "My Mother's Courage," "A Self-Made Hero" and "The Long Way Home" suggest that certain wounds will never heal, for individuals or nations. In this way, the films are much like "Hitler's Willing Executioners" by Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, the recent book that has provoked so much discussion about the culpability of the German public.

"Despite all the books and movies produced on World War II and the Holocaust," said Mr. Harris, "it's still very difficult to comprehend, intellectually and emotionally, their catastrophic dimensions."

Annette Insdorf, author of "Indelible Shadows: Film and the Holocaust," is director of undergraduate film studies at Columbia University.



Mathieu Kassovitz in "A Self-Made Hero," by Jacques Audiard — A fictional film that's an allegory for an entire country, France.

line), a cheerful Hungarian-Jewish woman, is suddenly arrested and set on a path to Auschwitz. Using dark humor, "My Mother's Courage" fulfills its title when Elsa boldly convinces the supervising SS officer that she has a Red Cross pass to travel freely. Miraculously, she returns to Budapest in the train compartment of this officer, a vegetarian who sees no irony in telling her he can't stand the idea of a creature being hacked to death.

The beginning of "My Mother's Courage" is like a series of Chinese boxes, as Mr. Verhoeven leads viewers to reflect on how history is represented: on video, a German man denies that he ever took part in the deportation of Hungarian Jews (he will later be seen as the SS officer); George Tabori greets the audience

part of the history of my country. This is one of the reasons the film opens and closes in present-day Berlin: to show that this story is being told from a modern German perspective."

Mr. Verhoeven makes it clear with a written coda that Elsa Tabori's story, while true, is atypical: out of 760,000 Jews in Hungary before the German occupation, 500,000 were killed. By contrast, "A Self-Made Hero," which opens Sept. 12, is a fictional film that its director sees as an allegory for an entire country, France. In Mr. Audiard's adaptation (with Alain Le Henry) of the novel by Jean-François Deniau, the central character, Albert (Mathieu Kassovitz), misses the chance to be a hero early in World War II. At the end of the war, however, he appropriates



Jewish refugees in a displaced-persons camp, as shown in "The Long Way Home," a new documentary.

MAGAZINE MERGER MANIA

By DAVID J. KAHN / Edited by WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 Routine responses?

11 Least amiable

12 One who sets up shots

18 Make — for

20 Radiators and such

22 Camden Yards player

23 One of the Beverly

24 The World —

25 Lab vessel

26 View surreptitiously

28 Cocoon's room

29 Tart

30 How the celebrity's

37 Contemptible one

38 Theme park

39 Hit man, so to speak

40 Novelist Nin

42 Name of three

43 Be against change

47 How the case of

52 — du Diable

53 Cry of delight

54 Bitter, to a Brit

55 Chatter

56 Nonplussed

58 Birchbark

60 Bowling game

63 Commute overseas

68 Top

70 More monumental

71 Short test for

72 Base figure: Abbr.

73 Annual hoops event,

74 Taste

77 Evening hours, to

87 Ready for a vacation

88 Sundance's girl

89 Pour — troubled

90 Where the Via del

91 Elkhart resident

94 Small toy-makers:

95 President Bush

101 Andreotti, for one

102 1920's White House

103 Greenish-yellow hue

104 Sit in on

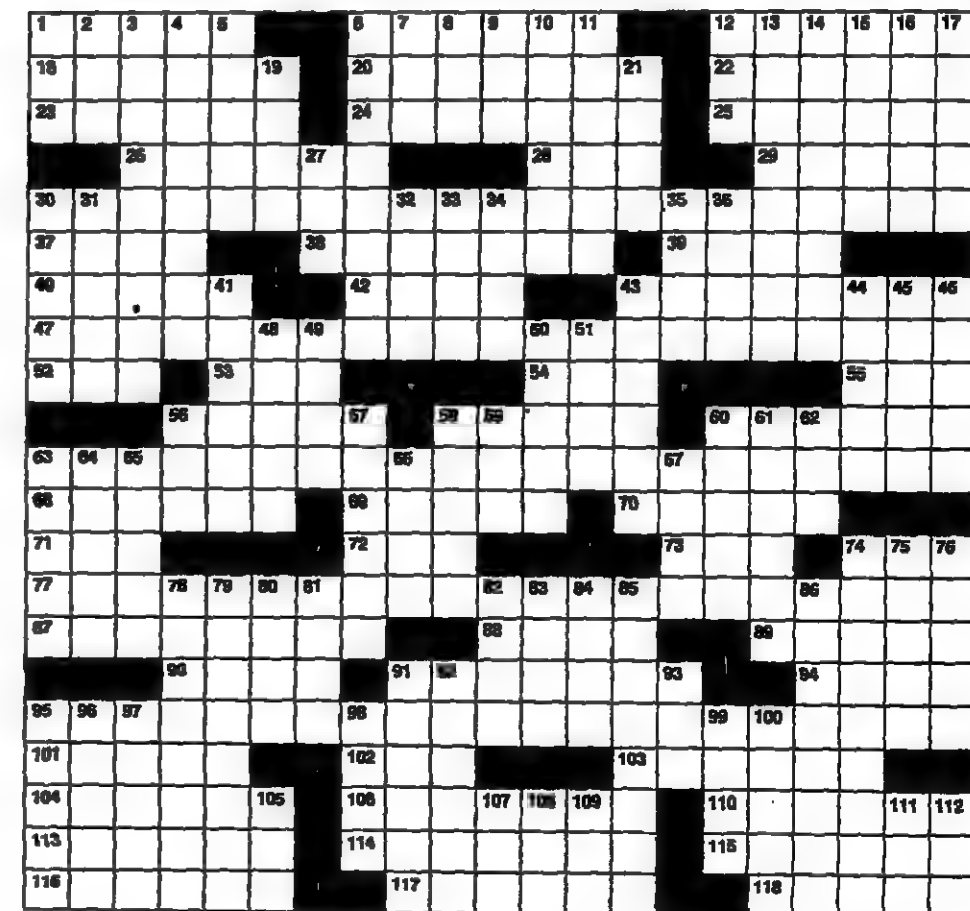
106 "King Rat" novelist

110 Birds of

111 Diving instructions,

114 Barely perceptible

115 Heavy hammer



DOWN

1 Muslim pilgrimage:

2 Cousin of a lemur

3 Weekly radio

4 Heinous

5 It can go in brackets

6 Angry words

7 Animator's sheet

8 Words before and

9 LAX abbr.

10 Counterpart for

11 Wall Street figure

12 Stole

13 Hardware

14 Chutists' needs

15 Keen

16 30's TV divorcee

17 Strapped

19 Arizona native

21 Mayo Clinic test

27 S.A. country

30 Master

31 Not dissonant,

32 Bent it

33 Emulate Tyra Banks

34 Agassi, at times

35 Challenger of Stalin

36 Sign of damage

41 Mollify

43 When repeated, cry

44 Intimidate, with

45 "To fetch —"

46 Combining the ideal

48 Nipped, with "out"

49 1973 World Series

50 Reached in amount

51 "The Time Machine"

56 Letters on a

57 Redressed, with

58 Williams title start

59 "So then what?"

60 Specter

61 Left and right,

62 Midpoint: Abbr.

63 Camp vehicles

64 Strain

65 Big name in golf

66 Light: Prefix

67 Tax-free bond,

74 Banking game

75 "See ya!"

76 English 101 subject

78 Most gamesome

79 Having equal angles

80 Salinger dedicatee

81 Interpret

82 She had a "Tootsie"

83 List ender

84 Tykes

85 "Das

86 Rheingold"

87 Telephone

88 Connections

91 Leaning to the

92 Corned beef

93 Important sports

94 org.

95 Exams for advanced

96 Noted stationer

97 "Coffee —?"

98 Churchly: Abbr.

99 Some office

100 Elève's place

105 Letters after Gov.

106 Jeanne Shabazz's

107 Sportscaster Scully

108 Compass heading

109 Thrash

111 Sensitive subject,

112 Stereo site

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. ROUTINE RESPONSES

2. COUSIN OF A LEMUR

3. WEEKLY RADIO

4. HEINOUS

5. IT CAN GO IN BRACKETS

6. ANGRY WORDS

7. ANIMATOR'S SHEET

8. WORDS BEFORE AND

9. LAX ABBR.

10. COUNTERPART FOR

11. WALL STREET FIGURE

12. STOLE

13. HARDWARE

14. CHUTISTS' NEEDS

15. KEEN

16. 30'S TV DIVORCEE

17. STRAPPED

19. ARIZONA NATIVE

21. MAYO CLINIC TEST

27. S.A. COUNTRY

30. MASTER

31. NOT DISSONANT,

32. BENT IT

33. EMULATE TYRA BANKS

34. AGASSI, AT TIMES

35. CHALLENGER OF STALIN

36. SIGN OF DAMAGE

41. MOLLIFY

43. WHEN REPEATED, CRY

44. INTIMIDATE, WITH

45. "TO FETCH —"

46. COMBINING THE IDEAL

48. NIPPED, WITH "OUT"

49. 1973 WORLD SERIES

50. REACHED IN AMOUNT

51. "THE TIME MACHINE"

56. LETTERS ON A

57. REDRESSED, WITH

58. WILLIAMS TITLE START

59. "SO THEN WHAT?"

60. SPECTER

61. LEFT AND RIGHT,

62. MIDPOINT: ABBR.

63. CAMP VEHICLES

64. STRAIN

65. BIG NAME IN GOLF

66. LIGHT: PREFIX

67. TAX-FREE BOND,

74. BANKING GAME

75. "SEE YA!"

76. ENGLISH 101 SUBJECT

78. MOST GAMESOME

79. HAVING EQUAL ANGLES

80. SALINGER DEDICATEE

81. INTERPRET

82. SHE HAD A "TOOTSIE"

83. LIST ENDER

84. TYKES

85. "DAS

86. RHEINGOLD"

87. TELEPHONE

88. CONNECTIONS

91. LEANING TO THE

92. CORNED BEEF

93. IMPORTANT SPORTS

94. ORG.

95. EXAMS FOR ADVANCED

96. NOTED STATIONER

97. "COFFEE —?"

98. CHURCHLY: ABBR.

99. SOME OFFICE

100. ELÈVE'S PLACE

105. LETTERS AFTER GOV.

106. JEANNE SHABAZZ'S

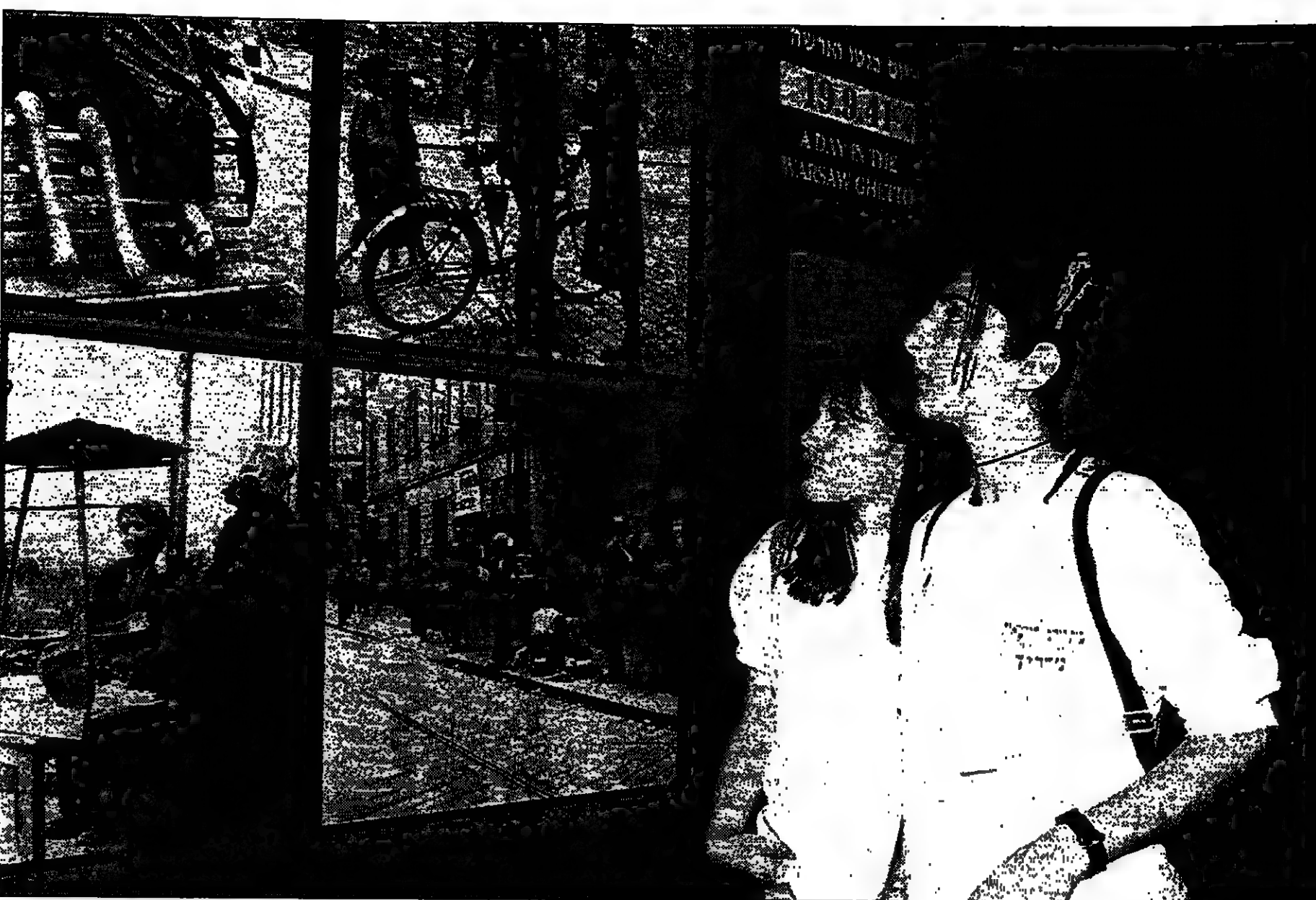
107. SPORTSCASTER SCULLY

108. COMPASS HEADING

109. THRASH

111. SENSITIVE SUBJECT,

112. STEREO SITE



Young Arabs and Jews learn to coexist through studying together: 'The story of the Holocaust is so strong, it creates the possibility of real dialogue.' (Issac Harari)

A taboo overturns, revealing trust

Arab and Druze highschoolers studying the Holocaust in depth? The notion seemed unrealistic — until a year-long afterschool program uncovered an eagerness and empathy no one knew was there. Ruth Mason reports.

On a hot summer's day, 16 teenagers walk through Yad Vashem accompanied by a handful of adults. The scene is commonplace until you look a little closer and listen more carefully.

Some of the teens speak softly among themselves. Their language is Arabic, and they come from villages with names like Julis and Kafir Yasiif. Like the Jewish members of the group, the Arab and Druze teens wear long white T-shirts displaying the name of the Ghetto Fighters' Museum and the word "GUIDE" printed in large block letters across the back.

The group's tour through Yad Vashem is the culmination of a year-long afterschool program that teaches Arab, Druze and Jewish high-school students about the Holocaust. All 113 participants volunteered for the program. This is its first year.

"What happened to the Jews — this painful thing — made me feel I had to know more," said Rania Sakas, a 17-year-old from Kafir Yasiif, with attractive brown eyes and a quick smile. "I knew the Holocaust happened, but I didn't understand its enormity. I didn't realize how many innocent people died and how hard it was for the Jews."

"Before this workshop, I identified with the Jews, but now I understand more about their pain."

Sakas, along with 19 other students from Kafir Yasiif, 24 from the Druze village of Julis, 39 from Acre and 30 from kibbutzim in the north, spent one afternoon a week from October to March studying about the Holocaust at the Ghetto Fighters' Museum at Kibbutz Lohamei Hageta'ot. At the end of the program, those who wanted to participate in four day-long sessions during the summer in which they learned together about related subjects such as Holocaust denial and

the Armenian genocide. The project is the brainchild of Raya Kalisman, a former history teacher and school principal from Misgav. She said this is the first time in Israeli history that Arab youth are learning about the Holocaust in depth. (They are taught a little about it in 11th grade for their matriculation exams.)

During a sabbatical year in Washington, Kalisman volunteered at the Holocaust museum in a project that taught African-American high-school students about the Holocaust.

"I saw what the program did for these kids and I thought, 'If this is so successful with children who have no connection with Israel, why not try it here?'" she recalled.

The museum staff was excited about Kalisman's idea and is supporting the project, though not financially. The Education Ministry paid Kalisman's salary for a year while she set up the project and also paid for the project's first year. Next year, her salary will be paid by the Ghetto Fighters' Museum and the project is to be financed with a grant from the Abraham Fund, which supports Arab-Jewish coexistence programs.

"We have to learn about the past in order to fix the future," explained Rachelle Schilo, director of the Abraham Fund's Israel office. "The Holocaust and its humanistic ramifications can help all of us understand

the dangers of racism."

At first Kalisman did not know if high-school students would respond. "Teachers told me that kids wouldn't come out in the afternoons," she said.

But after all the ninth graders in Julis visited Yad Leyeled, the new children's memorial at the Ghetto Fighters' Museum, half of them volunteered to continue in the afternoon program. Before that first visit, "they hardly knew anything," Kalisman said.

"Yad Leyeled is a living museum that tells the story of the Holocaust to children from the point of view of children. We don't use much written material. Visitors listen to tapes from children's journals, children's voices, videotapes of adults telling about themselves as children during the Holocaust," she explained.

Those who participated in the afternoon program also learned to use the Internet at the Oramim Teachers' Seminary and communicated through E-mail with African-American pupils in Washington learning about the Holocaust. Kalisman hopes to bring the two groups together some day.

The highlight for students and teachers alike was the graduation ceremony, during which the graduates guided their families around Yad Leyeled and exhibits at the Ghetto Fighters' Museum. "It was amazing to see these kids

guiding their families, their teachers, their friends. It gave them a lot. Each one seemed 10 centimeters taller," said Tzvi Oren, a teacher in the program.

"My mother cried at the graduation," said Samah Khirbawi, 16, of Julis. "She said she didn't know it would be so interesting and special."

The graduates are now considered official guides and will lead younger classes through the museum next year.

Until now, teaching the Holocaust to Arab youngsters "was a taboo subject," said Kalisman. "The Arabs said that bringing up the Holocaust was manipulative, and the Jews felt they didn't want Arabs to touch the Holocaust because it is holy and they would politicize it."

"But we feel this is the way to real coexistence — learning together, discussing together. Because the story of the Holocaust is so strong, it creates the possibility of real dialogue."

Motti Shalem, director of the International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem said his organization is also beginning to reach out to Israel's Arabs.

"There is a very basic difficulty here," he said. "We researched the matter for a year. We didn't want a situation in which the Arab children would come here and after four minutes say, 'What about the Arab Holocaust?' — which they consider to

have happened in '48.

"You have to move carefully and slowly. Last year we concentrated on research and teachers; this year we hope to bring dozens of Arab classes to Yad Vashem."

Kalisman encountered the same challenge in a teacher-training project she launched earlier this year. It brought together 35 Arab teachers in a four-hour weekly seminar on teaching the Holocaust — the first of its kind for Arabic-speakers. One of the issues that invariably comes up in the Arab groups — both teachers and students — is the suffering of Israeli Arabs.

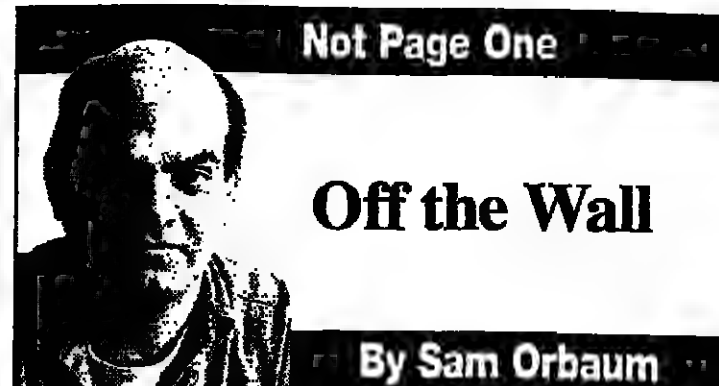
"It's not less important that Jews learn about our suffering," Khirbawi said. "It's not fair that I learn about their suffering and they don't learn about ours. I hope in the future they will."

"We're starting to talk about how to have this dialogue," Kalisman said. "Our mandate is to teach about the Holocaust, but we are thinking together about how best to address this issue."

She is currently looking for funding for a course, planned in conjunction with Haifa University, that would bring 15 Arab and 15 Jewish history teachers together to teach the narratives of both peoples in a way that will increase understanding.

It seems clear that the Arab participants have gained a greater sensitivity to the Jewish past and to Jewish pain. And it's changed some attitudes, too.

"Everything I learned here helps me respect Jews as people," Khalil Ayoub, 15, of Acre, said. "Before, I didn't talk much with Jews. I didn't have much contact. Now, when I meet a Jew, I speak to him, maybe even take a phone number. I see them as people. That's what I learned from this course — to respect people."



Not Page One

Off the Wall

By Sam Orbaum

Nothing like a traditional bar mitzva, marshmallows and all.

When Rabbi Jay Karzen made aliya from Chicago in 1985, he discovered that the last thing the Jewish State needs is rabbis. Fortunately, he is just the right kind of rabbi to make his mark here: unorthodox Orthodox. After a year here, he found his calling. He couldn't help but notice the *balagan* at the Wall, which for locals might be a way of life, but for visiting families conscripting their children into Jewish adulthood, well, something had to be done.

The Bar Mitzva King was born. He called his shlich Rituels Unlimited, never realizing that hundreds of rituals later, he'd be writing a book on the "unlimited" part of it.

He's been asked to fulfill some of the damndest requests you can imagine. Like the 75-year-old man who wanted a bar mitzva ... to please his 95-year-old mother.

Some of the letters he's received suggest that there are Jewish youngsters (he also does a nice bat mitzva) who might just as well be summoned to the Torah in Disneyland. An Arab *belge* vendor at Dung Gate understands more about Judaism, and the Wall, and bar mitzvas, than a fair slice of Diaspora Jewry.

Rabbi Karzen assures us that all these letters are real (I assure you his responses were a lot more kindly than my suggestions hereunder) ...

"Can you rent tefillin in Israel? We do not wish to purchase this expensive item for one time usage."

Rent a car instead. A pair of tefillin is standard equipment with all rent-a-cars in Israel.

"Our son does not attend religious school and cannot read any Hebrew. Can you conduct an all-English bar mitzva service for us?"

A cinch. We'll just use the original English version of the Torah, and not the Hebrew translation.

"Jason's birthday is in November, but we can only come to Israel during the summer vacation. Is it permissible to advance the ceremony a few months? Can you be flexible and stretch the law a bit? After all, isn't it more important for a Jewish youngster to have his first aliya in Jerusalem a few months earlier than not at all? (We could have lied and told you he was already 13.)"

I could go to Rabbinical Prison for that. Tell you what we'll do. You say he'll be 12 years old? We'll give him a bat mitzva instead.

"We will be part of an organized tour group and want to have a simple early morning bar mitzva service in order to be back at the hotel for breakfast and not miss the day's tour. Can we have a 6:30 a.m. service (abbreviated)? Do we get a discount for a shorter service?"

Or you could skip the hotel breakfast, ask them for a discount, and I'll arrange for rabbis at the Kotel to serve coffee and danish.

"We plan to write prayers to place inside the Kotel, as is the tradition. Can these prayers be written in English or must they be only in Hebrew?"

I'm afraid the English translator is on vacation at present. Can you write them in Aramaic?

"Please order a large sign with our family name for the Kotel so

'Can you rent tefillin in Israel? We do not wish to purchase this expensive item for one-time usage.'

acceptable and will the ultra-Orthodox make fun of us if we wear yarmulkas of a different color and fabric?"

I assure you the ultra-Orthodox, who are avowedly not clothes-conscious, will be deeply moved by it all. In fact, I suggest you bring an extra supply of blue satin *kippot* for them to wear too. And I'll tell them to wear their blue suits.

"We expect a very large crowd at the Western Wall for our simcha. Can you please arrange to book the entire Kotel for this event. We are prepared to pay whatever it costs."

Consider it done. I know of an abandoned disco downtown, we can redirect the other worshippers there for the day. Nobody will mind. PS: There's an automatic teller embedded in the Wall, for your convenience.

"For our invitations we need to know the exact address of the Kotel."

The Wall, 3842-A The Holy One Blessed Be He Boulevard West, Suite 2428, al-Quds.

"We are not a particularly religious family. Is it possible to have a non-religious BM ceremony at the Wall?"

Why, sure! A religious ceremony is not the only way to induct a blushing boy into manhood.

"Here in the USA all sets of tefillin we see at the local bookstores and Sisterhood Gift Shoppes are all BLACK. Can tefillin be blue or some other bright color? We would prefer something more festive than black! After all this is a Simcha!"

When you get to Israel, I'll take you to a Black Sisterhood Gift Shoppe, where all the tefillin are white.

that when the guests arrive they will be able to locate us easily."

Are you in luck. They've just installed a great new electronic cartoon kind of stadium scoreboard on the Kotel. We can program it to flash messages like "Yoi Gerald's bat mitzva guest! Over here by the hot-dog stand!"

"We are preparing the Torah holders list to bring with us. Can a non-Jew have a non-speaking honor during the Torah service (i.e., opening the Ark curtain or doors)? Will it be offensive to you if we give such an honor to a Jew who is agnostic?"

I'm afraid this would not be allowed. They will have to convert. Fortunately, your bar mitzva package includes five free circumcisions.

"Our travel agent has booked you to officiate at our daughter's bat mitzva ... She wishes to wear a tallit for the service and we wish to purchase this item in Israel. We understand that in an area called 'Meah Shearim' they have the largest selection of tallitot. Do they also carry a variety of female tallitot in feminine colors?"

You're more likely to find this item in Giza City.

"I know that you supply the candy that is thrown at the bar mitzva. Our son is afraid of being hurt by aggressive candy-throwers. Can we bring marshmallows from the States?"

May I suggest felafei balls.

Yasher koach to Rabbi Karzen for sharing this stuff with us. Watch for his book, *Joyous Jewishness*, coming to a Jewish bookstore or Sisterhood Shoppe near you. Movie nights available on request.

Brothers under the skin

One is white, middle-class and Jewish, the other black and poor. The two Washington-area highschool seniors, are both learning to be soldiers in the 'army of racism eradicators.'

By DONALD P. BAKER

Teenagers Greg Bernard, Jewish and from a middle-class Silver Spring, Maryland, family, and D'Vaughn Spencer, who is black and lives in a poor section of Washington, DC, seem to have little in common.

But after nearly a month of sharing the experiences of their respective heritages — from planting flowers in a garden in the racially torn Crown Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn to repairing an arson-damaged black church in Greensboro, Alabama — the two young men made an unexpected discovery.

"We could be brothers. The ideas that we have... we're finishing my sentences," said Bernard, 17, exchanging a high-five with Spencer.

"It showed me we really are the same," confirmed Spencer, 16.

"Both of us believe in non-prejudice," interjected Bernard. "In healing, and fixing our differences." Bernard and Spencer are among 22 Washington-area high school seniors — 11 Jewish and 11 black — participating in a year-long program called Operation Understanding DC, which seeks to rebuild alliances between the two minorities.

The highlight of the program is a recently completed 25-day tour of sites that hold special meaning for blacks and Jews, including Harlem

and Ellis Island in New York, the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis, where Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, and a memorial to slain civil rights workers in Philadelphia, Missouri.

"Our mission is simple, ambitious and vital," said founder Karen Kalish. "We aim to bring these two groups together again to dispel stereotypes — promote cooperation, mutual respect, dialogue and understanding. We are preparing them to promote interracial harmony, respect for diversity, and eradicate racism by building a positive coalition between the two groups."

At its conclusion, Kalish hopes to unleash "an army of racism eradicators" who are equipped for leadership roles in a nationwide dialogue on race, a goal compatible with President Clinton's call for "a great and unprecedented conversation about race," which he issued one week before these teenagers embarked on their search for commonality and understanding.

But first the teenagers had to confront their stereotypes of each other.

Bernard's classmate, Anna Mackler, said she thought "everyone in the South was a hick or a redneck and they all lived in trailers." Rebecca Stoil of Alexandria, Virginia, said she believed that "blacks, with a few exceptions, were less ambitious, less interested in literature and dress more trendy" than she and her friends.

And Washington high-school senior Damien Frierson, like several other blacks, acknowledged that he arrived thinking that "all Jews were rich and racist and hated Christians."

It was often at night when the teenagers sat in a circle and "processed" the day's experiences that they began to break down these stereotypes and see each other as individuals.

That was true of the evening when the teenagers talked about a visit they had made a few days earlier to an abandoned Jewish cemetery in rural Port Gibson, Mississippi,

where the Jewish contingent recited Kaddish, while the black students remained on the bus.

It was apparent during the discussion that the Jewish students thought the black students should have joined them at the cemetery.

"No death should go forgotten," said high-school senior Yael Zakai, who has visited Holocaust camps in Poland. "It could have been a learning experience" for those who stayed on the bus. Several of the blacks responded that they thought the Jewish students wanted privacy for a religious activity.

Such frank exchanges mean "true education is taking place," said Christian Dorsey, a Georgetown University graduate who was one of two trip leaders. Dorsey is black; the other leader was a young Jewish woman, Melinda Pollock from George Washington University.

The organization's \$150,000 annual budget is raised from churches, synagogues, individuals and foundations. The participants are expected

to earn money to cover a share of the trip and to help solicit funds. The largest gift, \$50,000, came from film director Steven Spielberg's "Righteous Persons Foundation," which is funded by profits from his movie *Schindler's List*.

The program began with a retreat over the Martin Luther King Jr. birthday weekend. By the time this tour began, the teenagers had visited the Holocaust Memorial Museum, attended Easter services at a black church, and shared a Passover Seder. This fall, they will meet with Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Ruth Bader Ginsburg and with black and Jewish members of Congress, attend a bar or bat mitzva, learn how to respond to racist remarks, and celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa.

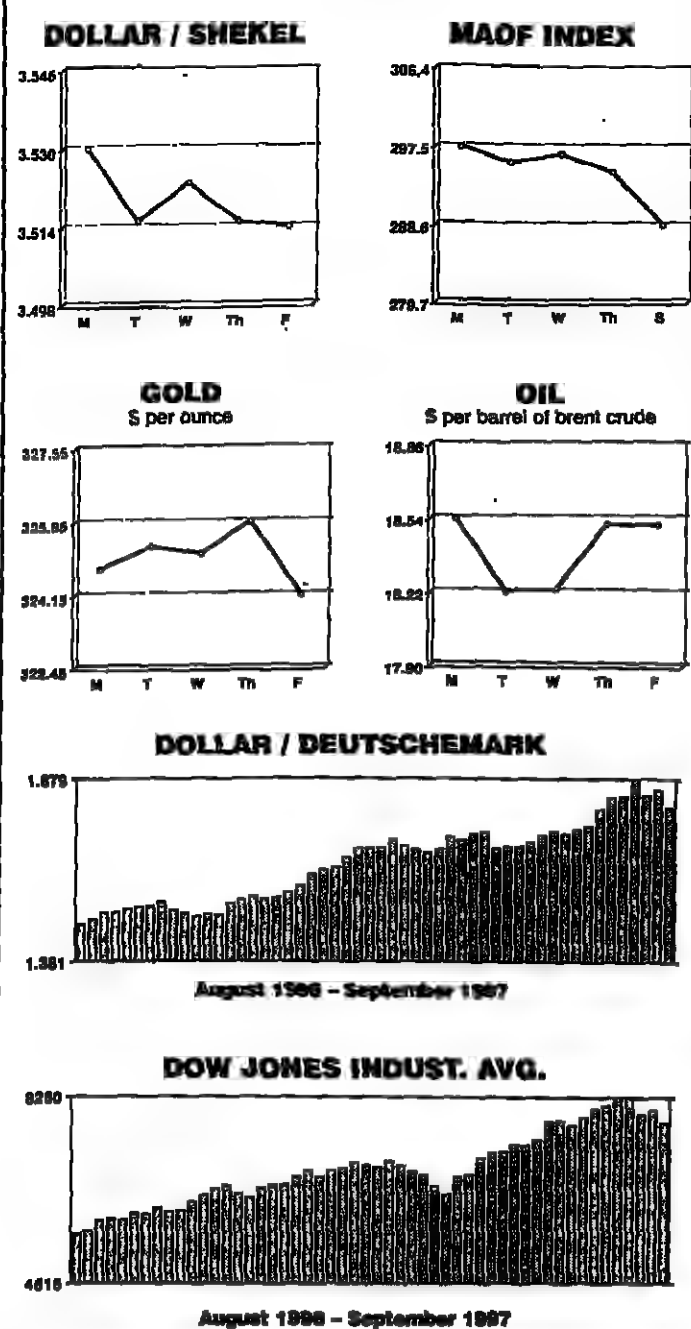
As the tour progressed, from Crown Heights through the Mississippi Delta, on to Selma and Montgomery, it became apparent to the teenagers that their similarities, which they put in writing, dwarfed their list of differences.

Now Mackler's view is "If I understand you, I am not afraid of you." In Montgomery, the teenagers visited the Southern Poverty Law Center, Martin Luther King's Dexter Avenue Baptist Church and the statehouse where then-Gov. George Wallace boasted, "Segregation today, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever." (AP)

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MARKETS

in brief



COMPANY RESULTS

Bank Leumi second quarter net up 38%

By DAN GURSTENFELD

Bank Leumi reported yesterday that net earnings in the second quarter of 1997 rose 38 percent to NIS 168.5 million.

During the first six months of the year, net earnings rose 240.4% to NIS 801.1m. Most of the rise was attributed to a NIS 464.6m. capital gain from the sale of shares in Leumi Insurance Holdings and Africa Israel Investments.

Second quarter net profit climbed 38.3% to NIS 168.5m. from the same period last year.

For the first half, net profit jumped 240.4% to NIS 801.1m. Annualized net return on equity, including earnings from the sale of shares, was 15% as against 8.1% last year.

Bank Leumi, the country's second largest commercial bank, attributed the higher earnings to improved profits in its operations while containing costs.

Provision for doubtful debt rose 36% to NIS 334.6m. The bank said the increase was due to the decision to accelerate the pace of new provisions because of the slow economy and the

one-time gains.

Credit to the public, in the 12 months to June 30, rose 12.7% to NIS 82.6b., while deposits from the public rose 10.3% to NIS 113.9b.

Solei Boneh Building and Infrastructure announced yesterday that net profit in the second quarter fell to NIS 14m. from NIS 15.8m. a year earlier. Without expenses for workers' benefits, net profit rose to NIS 21.8m.

During the first six months, net profit rose slightly to NIS 36m. from NIS 35.9m. a year

earlier.

The company's income went up to NIS 971.9m. from NIS 949.1m. in the first half of 1996.

Solei Boneh stated that the net figures exclude expansions of NIS 7.8m. for a benefit given to workers who purchased the company's stock options when they were offered to the public in May 1997. Without those expenses, profit was NIS 43.8m.

The company said it has performed works worth NIS 9.71b. during the first half of the year, which reflects a 2.4% rise from the same period last year.

Bezeq posts NIS 553m. losses

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Results due to NIS 1b. reorganization costs

Bezeq Ltd.'s second quarter net losses totalled NIS 553.1 million, a result of the reorganization plan which will cost the company NIS 1 billion, chairman Izzy Tapoohi said yesterday.

"Any company that goes through a reorganization will have an initial loss," Tapoohi said. "But without taking that action the company will not be able to become leaner and more competitive and to withstand the competition in the coming years."

Second quarter net income in 1996 totalled NIS 168m.

Tapoohi said that the restructuring program, which includes the laying off of 1,800 of the company's 9,000 employees by mid-

1997, is expected to save the company NIS 400m. per year, allowing the company to regain its investment within four years' time.

Revenues for the second quarter of the year totalled NIS 2.19b., compared to NIS 2.15b. in the same period last year, a 1.9% increase.

For the first six months of 1997, revenues rose 4.3% to NIS 4.4b., compared to NIS 4.2b. in the same period one year ago.

Operating profits for the first half of the year jumped 20.7%, to NIS 799m. from NIS 661m. in the same period last year.

The directors' report said the

company needs to implement the restructuring plan due to intensifying competition in the marketplace. Recently, two new telecommunications companies began providing international service, and the government published a tender for a third cellular phone carrier.

While the growing competition may force Bezeq to streamline its activities, it will impede the company's profitability in the future, analysts said.

"The company's future is changing as a result of the gradual demonopolization," said Mark Meiras, managing director of Pacific Mediterranean. "The com-

pany won't have a significant return on equity in the coming years because they won't have monopolies."

Although income will drop, bringing down expenses will allow the company to maintain its profitability, Tapoohi said.

The company's reorganization plan will be implemented after the arrangements are reached with the workers' union, and the resulting agreement is approved by the board, the Government Companies Authority, and the Treasury.

Under the new structure, there will be fewer field units, and the company will suit itself to its main

role as a national sales company.

Last month, Merrill Lynch, the world's largest equities underwriter, bought a 12.5% stake in Bezeq from the government for \$250m.

The sale of Bezeq shares reduces the government's holding in Bezeq from 76% to 63.5%.

Earlier this year, the Knesset Finance Committee approved the Government Companies Authority's plan to reduce the government's stake in Bezeq from 76% to 52%.

Cable and Wireless PLC of the UK has a 10% stake in Bezeq.

The *Globe's* financial daily yesterday reported that sources close to the company said the financial results would hinder Bezeq's 11.5% public share issue, scheduled for November.

Bank of England chief: Pound excessively strong

JACKSON HOLE, Wyoming, (Bloomberg) - The current strength of the British pound is greater than can be sustained over the long run, Bank of England Governor Eddie George said Saturday.

"We've got an exchange rate which is clearly stronger than we think can be sustained in the longer term," George told central bankers and economists at the Kansas City Fed's annual symposium.

Financial stability is the topic of this year's conference, which drew participants from Europe and the Pacific Rim as well as North America and South America.

The strength of the pound "creates a tension between the external and internal interests of the economy," said George. While a strong currency has benefits for the domestic economy, putting downward pressure on consumer prices, it puts exporters at a competitive disadvantage.

George's comments came in the

context of a discussion of financial asset price fluctuations, which may occur in apparent contradiction to monetary and fiscal policies.

"What can you do, if you're pursuing sound policies and you get asset price fluctuations," anyway, George asked rhetorically. "I think the answer basically is, you have to hold on. We can't expect the world to be the totally ordered and structured place we'd like it to be. We in the UK are confronted with this dilemma now."

The strength of the pound has posed a dilemma for the Bank of England in recent months. In the past year - from August 22, 1996, to August 22, 1997 - sterling has risen 19.5 percent against a trading-weighted basket of currencies and 20.2% against the deutsche mark.

At the moment, the drag of the strong pound is working for the Bank of England, restraining inflation without hampering the econo-

my and enabling it to get by without another rate increase.

Still, the strong pound is starting to weigh on British exporters. Orders to exporters dropped in August to their lowest level since November 1992, according to a survey by the Confederation of British Industry. The CBI said 48 percent of the manufacturers it surveyed see export orders as below normal for this time of year. Only 11 percent reported orders above normal.

The euro, the anticipated European currency, now looks as if it will be less stable and more prone to inflation than the deutsche mark, the de facto benchmark for currency stability on the Continent, so a certain number of people are shifting funds into the safe haven of the pound, the bank says.

Once the future of the euro is worked out and people know better how much it will be worth, the flight to the pound will slack off.

Where to stay in Israel

HOTELS

JERUSALEM
HOTEL NEVE ILAN - Located off highway #1 between Tel Aviv - Jerusalem, first class hotel, 160 rooms, year-round sport & health club, tennis, bicycles, horses. Aug. 24-Sept. 30, stay 3 nights pay for 2. Tel. 02-533 9339 Fax: 02-533 9335 email: hotel@neve-ilan.co.il

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ZICHRON YA'ACOV
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PERA-AMELA (Agas Ve Tapoohi) - authentic pasta & Italian specialties, prepared by former Italian, Glonatan & Miriam Ottolenghi. Also crepes, pizzas: 7 Hamat St. (off King George) Tel. 02-525 1978 K kosher-dairy. Glass of wine with this ad.

RIENZI - Candlelight dining in an elegant decor. Fresh fish and homemade pasta. K kosher-Dairy. Business lunch from NIS 35. 10 King David St. (Across from Hebrew Union College). Tel. 02-622 2312.

ROSH PINA
THE LEBANON RESTAURANT - Main road outside Rosh Pina, near Paz filling station. A connoisseur's oriental restaurant. Selection grilled meats, salt-water fish, schwarme, humous + fat bread, salads, and many main courses. Tel. 06-683 7566.

Where to visit in Israel

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SAVE TIME AND MONEY - Contact Judy at SIGHTSEEING TOURS, 81 Hayarlon St., Tel Aviv. Tel. 03-517 8248, Fax: 03-517 8835 (from international fax: 972-3-517 8835). Booking daily sightseeing tours to all of Israel, Jordan and Egypt.

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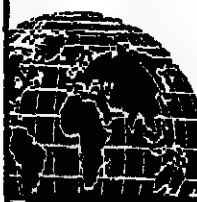
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The receipts together with the supplier's particulars should be faxed to 972-2-5278113. Confirmation of receipt of the fax at 972-2-5395616/429/615/4.
- The bids must be placed in the Tenders Box at 15 Hatzi St., Jerusalem.
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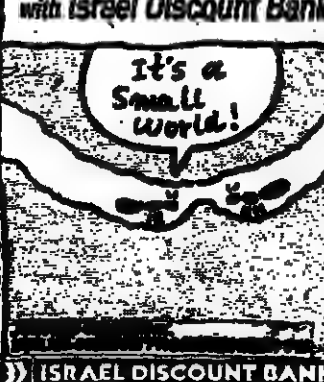
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STOCKS

No progress in US-Japan trade dispute

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Last Thursday, the Bank of Israel raised its benchmark interest rate 0.7 percentage point to 13.4%.

Foods producer Osem Investment Ltd. dropped 2%. The company's reported second-quarter net rose 6.6%. Comfy Interactive Movies Ltd. sank 8%.
(Bloomberg)

Japanese officials have said they would retaliate if US sanctions are imposed.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (29.8.97)

CHECKS AND

	TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep.
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Rate*
Currency basket	3.7298	3.7900	—	—	3.7687
U.S. dollar	3.7470	3.8311	3.41	3.59	3.5140
German mark	1.9395	1.9706	1.93	2.00	1.9694
Pound sterling	5.6298	5.7194	5.83	5.90	5.6895
French franc	0.5784	0.5957	0.56	0.60	0.5819
Japanese yen (100)	2.9177	2.9648	2.96	3.01	2.9423
Dutch florin	1.7225	1.7501	1.89	1.78	1.7393
Swiss franc	2.3458	2.3995	2.50	2.42	2.3691
Swedish krona	0.4455	0.4627	0.43	0.46	0.4488
Norwegian krona	0.4892	0.4798	0.46	0.49	0.4743
Denish krone	0.5099	0.5179	0.50	0.53	0.5143
Finnish mark	0.6494	0.6599	0.63	0.67	0.6626
Canadian dollar	2.4987	2.5401	2.45	2.58	2.5278
Australian dollar	2.5515	2.5927	2.50	2.63	2.5818
S. African rand	0.7410	0.7530	0.67	0.78	0.7601
Belgian franc (10)	0.9396	0.9548	0.92	0.97	0.9484
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7562	2.8007	2.70	2.84	2.7828
Italian lira (1000)	1.9808	2.0126	1.94	2.05	2.0011
Jordanian dinar	4.9878	4.9878	4.83	5.16	4.8972
Egyptian pound	0.9900	1.0700	0.99	1.07	1.1069
ECU	3.8098	3.8713	—	—	3.8470
Irish punt	5.5778	5.5814	5.06	5.34	5.2323
Spanish peseta (100)	2.2959	2.3327	2.25	2.37	2.3179

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ENT); Misgav Ladach (obstetrics); Bikur Holim (pediatrics); Shaare Zedek (ophthalmology).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).
Nefanya: Laniado.

POLICE **100**

Collson	\$4156.0	-2.2
DPZ	297.0	0.0
DPZ Bond A	149.0	0.0
ER	867.0	-1.0
Gamma	549.0	0.9
Jacobi	220.0	0.0
Med Bond A	167.0	0.0
Med Bond B	89.5	0.0
Med Industries	420.0	0.0
Med Warrant S	109.5	-4.5
Med	491.0	0.0
Med	170.0	2.4

WHERE TO GO

JERUSALEM
Conducted Tours
HEBREW UNIVERSITY, Tours of the
Mount Scopus campus, in English,
daily Sun-Thur., 11 a.m. from
Ironman Reception Center, Sherman
Administration Bldg. Buses 4, 9, 23,
6, 28. For info, call 588-2819.
HADASSAH. Visit the Hadassah Instal-
lations, Chagall Windows. Tel. 02-
416333, 02-677-6271.

EL AVTV

EL ALIVY MUSEUM. Yona Lotan: **Selected Paintings 1958-97.** Second-edition, Original vs. Reproduction: A didactic exhibition for children and youth. Micha Kishner; *The Local Spirit* (1958-60), 30 Paintings; *The World of Wonder* 3, Paintings 1968-77, Dorit Yagor; *The Collection of the World's a Stage.* New series. "All the World's a Stage." The Collection of the World's a Stage. Collections: HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART, Yigal Ozar: 1994-97. Hours: Weekdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tues. a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Yehoyahoff Art Education Center, Tel. 919155-8.

AIFA

Control	132.0	-0.4
for Abtagon	229.0	-1.7
for Abtagon Bond A	894.0	-2.0
for Abtagon Bond B	143.5	0.0
1	129.5	-0.4
1	1005.0	0.0
5	4045.0	-2.0
1	5077.0	0.0
5	25770.0	0.0
(control)	540.0	0.0
Cables 1	276.0	-2.1

MISHTANIM
LEADING 100
BASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE
Al Paper Mills	15378.0	-0.0
Alchemies Ind.	45.0	-1.0
Alexis Hotels	45.0	-2.2
Alfa Romeo S.p.A.	234.00	-2.8
Alfa Romeo 1	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 2	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 3	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 4	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 5	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 6	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 7	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 8	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 9	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 10	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 11	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 12	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 13	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 14	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 15	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 16	0.0	0.0
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Alfa Romeo 112	0.0	0.0
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Alfa Romeo 114	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 115	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 116	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 117	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 118	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 119	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 120	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 121	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 122	0.0	0.0
Alfa Romeo 123	0.0	0.0

KARAM
SMALL CAPITALISATION
TASE ISSUES

772 Bond A	178.0	-1.1
773 Bond A	158.0	0.0
774 Bond A	4.0	0.0
775 Bond A	80.0	0.0
776 Bond A	70.0	0.0
777 Bond A	163.0	0.0
778 Bond A	163.0	-0.5
779 Bond A	70.0	-0.5
780 Bond A	13.0	0.0
781 Bond A	59.0	0.0
782 Bond A	13.0	0.0
783 Bond A	8.0	-16.0
784 Bond A	0.0	0.0
785 Bond A	10.0	0.0
786 Bond A	283.0	0.0
787 Bond A	124.0	-0.5
788 Bond A	124.0	-0.5
789 Bond A	124.0	-0.5
790 Bond A	124.0	-0.5
791 Bond A	397.0	0.0
792 Bond A	397.0	-3.1
793 Bond A	170.0	-0.0
794 Bond A	70.0	0.0
795 Bond A	70.0	0.0
796 Bond A	70.0	0.0
797 Bond A	70.0	0.0
798 Bond A	70.0	0.0
799 Bond A	70.0	0.0
800 Bond A	70.0	0.0
801 Bond A	70.0	0.0
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994 Bond A	70.0	0.0
995 Bond A	70.0	0.0
996 Bond A	70.0	0.0
997 Bond A	70.0	0.0
998 Bond A	70.0	0.0
999 Bond A	70.0	0.0
1000 Bond A	70.0	0.0

[illegible]

	LAST	CHANG
San Gas Bond A	148.5	0.0
San Gas Bond B	139.0	-1.2
Ind Bid Warrant 3	142.5	-0.2
Ind Bridge Pt	92.0	-4.1
Ind Bus Bond A	285.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond B	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond C	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond D	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond E	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond F	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond G	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond H	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond I	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond J	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond K	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond L	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond M	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond N	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond O	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond P	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond Q	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond R	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond S	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond T	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond U	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond V	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond W	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond X	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond Y	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond Z	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AA	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AB	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AC	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AD	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AE	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AF	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AG	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AH	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AI	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AJ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AK	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AL	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AM	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AN	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AO	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AP	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AQ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AR	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AS	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AT	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AU	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AV	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AW	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AX	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AY	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond AZ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BA	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BB	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BC	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BD	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BE	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BF	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BG	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BH	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BI	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BJ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BK	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BL	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BM	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BN	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BO	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BP	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BQ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BR	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BS	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BT	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BU	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BV	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BW	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BX	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BY	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond BZ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CA	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CB	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CC	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CD	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CE	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CF	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CG	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CH	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CI	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CJ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CK	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CL	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CM	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CN	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CO	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CP	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CQ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CR	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CS	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CT	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CU	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CV	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CW	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CX	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CY	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond CZ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DA	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DB	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DC	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DD	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DE	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DF	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DG	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DH	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DI	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DJ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DK	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DL	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DM	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DN	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DO	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DP	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DQ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DR	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DS	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DT	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DU	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DV	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DW	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DX	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DY	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond DZ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond EA	250.0	0.0
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Ind Bus Bond EC	250.0	0.0
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Ind Bus Bond EH	250.0	0.0
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Ind Bus Bond EJ	250.0	0.0
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Ind Bus Bond EN	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond EO	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond EP	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond EQ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond ER	250.0	0.0
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Ind Bus Bond ET	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond EU	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond EV	250.0	0.0
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Ind Bus Bond EX	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond EY	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond EZ	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond FA	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond FB	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond FC	250.0	0.0
Ind Bus Bond FD	250.0	0.0
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TA

in na

Israeli stocks dropped after U.S. shares fell during the Israeli weekend and as investors reacted to higher interest rates.

Leading the decline were: Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., Israel's biggest drug company; Bezeq Ltd., the state-controlled telecommunications provider; and Bank Leumi, Israel's No. 2 bank based on assets.

Teva slumped 5.25 percent while Bezeq and Bank Leumi shed 2.25% apiece.

Among the handful of gaining stocks on the Mishtanim 100, Computers rose 1.5%, and Maritime Bank, which reported that its second-quarter net income had tripled, added 0.5%.

The Maof index of 25 shares fell 2.34% to 288.16. The Mishtanim Index of 100 shares also fell 2.34% to 280.8. The Maof index is down more than 9% since 1985.

No progress

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The United States is concerned by lack of progress in resolving a dispute with Japan over port practices but still hopes that trade sanctions can be avoided, a US official said on Friday.

"The port practices situation is quite disturbing and we are very concerned with the present status of the discussions in Tokyo," said Charles Hunnicutt, assistant secretary for aviation and international affairs at the Department of Transportation.

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DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA

ABA COMPUTER SYSTEMS LIMITED
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TE Futures, Options,
Stocks, Bonds
and Mutual Funds

34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem

Te 02-624-4963 Fax 02-623-9515
Te 02-623-9515 Fax 02-623-9515

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Monday, September 1
EMERGENCY
PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Amos, 9 Leib Yaffe, 673-1901; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shaula, Shaula Road, 591-0106; Her Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: Pharma Daf Jabotinsky, 125 Ibn Givrol, 546-2040; Superpharm Gmel, 1 Ahinert, Ramat Aviv Gmel, 641-7171.
Tul 1 a.m. Tuesday: Pharma Daf Jabotinsky, 125 Ibn Givrol, 546-2040. Tli midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 641-3730; London Miniature Superpharm, 4 Shani Hamelech, 696-0115. Ra'annah-Sfar Savat: Amer Gilad, 34 Weizmann, Kfar Sava, 762-6826.
Netanya: Refa-El, 14 Stampet, 833-1107.
Eilat: Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 833-3312.
Krayot area: Krayot Holim Chai Zevulun, 192 Derech Aklon, Krayot Bialik, 878-7818.
Beerzila: Clal Pharm. Beit Merkuzim, 6 Mevshet (cnc. Sderot Hagalon), Herzliya Pinhas, 965-8472, 955-8407, Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm. Lev Ra'i Mail, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ENT); Misgav Ladach (obstetrics); Bikur Holim (pediatrics); Shaare Zedek (ophthalmology).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Lamiado.

POLICE 100

Woolson	84196.0	-2.2
YDYZ	297.0	0.0
YDYZ Bond A	149.0	0.0
YDYZ	867.0	-1.0
YDYZ	540.0	0.0
YDYZ	220.0	0.0
YDYZ Bond A	167.0	0.0
YDYZ Bond B	86.0	0.0
YDYZ Index	620.0	0.0
YDYZ Warrant 3	1056.0	-4.8
YDYZ	461.0	0.0

SE slum arrow

STOCKS

Maof 288.16 ▼ 2.34

touched a record 317.66 on August 6.

"Wall Street was weak," said Daniella Finn, head of research at securities firm Ilanot Banucha.

"Also, macroeconomic indicators didn't look good after a long period of declining rates. Interest rates went up, and the money supply seems out of control."

Last Thursday, the Bank of Israel raised its benchmark interest rate 0.7 percentage point to 13.4%.

in US-Japan

The US Federal Maritime Commission is poised to hit Japanese cargo ships entering US ports with a \$100,000 surcharge on Thursday if Japanese authorities fail to come up with a plan to change port practices that US officials say discriminate against foreign shippers.

"It is our hope that over the weekend the Japanese parties can reassess their current positions," Hunicutt told reporters.

He said Japanese shippers, foreign shippers and the Japan Harbor Transport Association

ISRAEL MON

Patach (foreign currency)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTH
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.875
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.825
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.825
Yen (10 million yen)	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than)

Shekel Foreign Exchange

CHECKS AND TRANSFERS

Buy

Currency basket	3.7298
U.S. dollar	3.4750
German mark	1.9385
Pound sterling	5.6286
French franc	0.5784
Japanese yen (100)	2.1777
Dutch florin	1.7223
Swiss franc	2.3458
Swedish krona	0.4455
Norwegian krona	0.4882
Denish krona	0.5096
Finnish mark	0.4844
Canadian dollar	2.4987
Australian dollar	2.2615
S. African rand	0.7410
Belgian franc (10)	0.9386
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7582
Italian lire (1000)	1.8608
Jordanian dinar	4.8878
Egyptian pound	0.8900
ECU	3.8088
Irish punt	5.1778
Spanish peseta (100)	2.2988

"These rates vary according to the day of the week."

SOURCE:

FIRE 102

FIRST AID 101

Magen David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod 8551333	Kfar Sava 9002222
Ashkelon 6511332	Mahabib 9012333
Bene-Bera 674787	Nesher 9044444
Bnei Brak 6523133	Pekiin Yotva 9311111
Be'er Sheva 5793333	Rahat 8451333
Elon 6132444	Rishon 9462333
Hadera 6112333	Safed 6902333
Jerusalem 6523133	Tel Aviv 5460111
Karmiel 9885444	Thessalon 6792444
* Mobile Inclusive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.	

Medical help for tourists (in English)

177-022-9110

The National Poison Control Center at Rabinovitch Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Erin - Emotional First Aid - 1201, also Jerusalem 541-0303, Tel Aviv 546-1111 (jehichan@youth 546-0739), Fishon Lazon 856-8861/2, Haifa 867-2222.

Beersheba 649-4333, Netanya 862-5110, Karmiel 888-8770, Kfar Sava 767-4555, Hadera 634-6789.

Crisis Center for Religious Women 02-656-5744/5, 24-hour service, confidentiality guaranteed.

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-631-4111, 03-546-1133 (also in Russian), 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506 (also in Amharic).

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.

Hadassah Medical Organization - Israel Cancer Association support service 02-624-7676).

Yarden	510.0	-2.3
Yarden Barel 2	115.0	4.9
Yarden Western 5	191.0	0.0
Yotva	139.0	0.0
Yotva	369.0	-0.5
Yotva Gid.	26.7	0.0
Yotva Barel A	156.0	0.0
Yotva Barel B	383.0	-2.4
Yotva	851.0	0.0
Yotva	132.0	0.1
Yotva	581.0	0.0

Imports trade

Eli Nahum, head trader at Zannex Securities, also cited "expectations of instability in labor relations," reflecting threats from the Histadrut to call a general strike over the government's efforts to sell state assets.

Investors also are worried about "the continuing freeze in the peace process," he said. Teva's American depositary receipts fell to 52 3/8 on Friday, from 54 3/4 on Wednesday, the last day of trading in New York to influence Tel Aviv. August was the worst month for US stocks in seven years.

Bank Leumi fell as it reported second-quarter net income rose 38%.

Foods producer Osem Investment Ltd. dropped 2%. The company's reported second-quarter net rose 6.6%. Comfy Interactive Movies Ltd. sank 8%. (Bloomberg)

trade dispute

(JHTA) were to meet on Sunday in an effort to get negotiations back on track.

Sanctions set by the US commission earlier this year were delayed until September 4, after Japanese officials promised to reform port operations.

But US officials said they have been disappointed with Japanese efforts and that the sanctions will go into effect as planned if no progress is made.

Japanese officials have said they would retaliate if US sanctions are imposed.

KEY MARKETS

deposit rates* (11.9.96)

\$	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
5.000	5.375	
4.000	4.250	
1.825	2.125	
0.750	1.200	

*Indicated according to deposit

Exchange Rates* (29.8.97)

UNIT	BANKNOTES	Rep.
Self	Buy	Rate**
7.7000	—	3.7807
6.3311	3.41	3.5140
9.7708	1.80	1.9584
71.7194	5.53	5.6885
5.5857	0.58	0.5819
9.9648	2.86	2.9423
7.7501	1.90	1.7383
3.8936	2.30	2.3681
4.6227	0.43	0.4498
4.7788	0.46	0.4743
5.1178	0.50	0.5143
9.9569	0.83	0.9326
5.4401	2.45	2.5276
9.9827	2.50	2.5815
7.7530	0.67	0.7501
9.9548	0.92	0.9484
8.0007	2.70	2.7629
0.0129	1.94	2.0011
9.7758	4.53	4.8972
0.7700	0.99	1.1089
8.713	—	3.8470
29.114	5.08	5.343
3.3327	2.25	2.37

to bank. **Bank of Israel.

BANK LEUMI

WHERE TO GO

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Conducted Tours
HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Center, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 28, 28. For info, call 588-2619.
HADASSAH. Visit the Hadassah Installations, Chapal Windows. Tel. 02-6416333, 02-677-8271.

TEL AVIV
Museums
TEL AVIV MUSEUM. Yona Lotan: Selected Paintings 1958-97. Second-hand, Original vs. Reproduction: Classic exhibition for children and youth. Michla Krahnert: The Local Spirit photographs 1979-96. Eli Jacob: The World of Wanderers 3, Paintings 1996-97. Don't Worry: New series. "All the World's a stage." The Collection in Context. Collections: HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART. Vigil Ozar: 1994-97. Hours: Weekdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meyerhoff Art Education Center, Tel. 5919155-8.

HAIFA
WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-8374253.

Tel Aviv	132.0	-1.7
Yaffo	220.0	-1.4
Yaffo Abzgon	583.0	-2.0
Yaffo Abzgon Bond A	143.0	0.0
Yaffo Abzgon Bond B	125.0	0.4
Yaffo 1	1005.0	0.0
Yaffo 2	1005.0	0.0
Yaffo 3	577.0	0.6
Yaffo 4	2577.0	0.0
Yaffo 5	947.0	0.0
Yaffo 6	270.0	0.0

British soccer postponed over Diana death

LONDON (Bloomberg) — Sports chiefs yesterday postponed fixtures including Liverpool's FA Cup Premiership clash with Newcastle as a mark of respect following the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Peter Leaver, chief executive of the Premier League, issued a statement through PA Sport which read: "In light of the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the FA Premier League has as a mark of respect to her family, decided to postpone this afternoon's Liverpool v Newcastle fixture."

"The world of football joins the nation in expressing our deepest sympathies to all those who knew and loved her."

The Division One match between Crewe and Port Vale at Gresty Road was also postponed by the Football League as was the Scottish Premier Kilmarnock-Motherwell match.

The Silverstone motor racing festival was also put off to a later date.

Explaining the decision to postpone the Kilmarnock game, Scottish League secretary Peter Donald said: "We have decided on this action because of the mood of the nation."

The League also took the decision to call off tomorrow's Old Firm match between Celtic and Rangers.

Seles holds off Pierce

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Second seed Monica Seles pulled a Lazarus act at the US Open yesterday, resurrecting her game in time to score a three-set victory over ninth seed Mary Pierce and claim a spot in the quarter-finals.

It was the first meeting of the Open between seeded players and the first real marquee matchup between two competitors with genuine Grand Slam credentials.

But after the first set, two-time Open champion Seles looked dead in the water before roaring back for an exciting 1-6, 6-2, 6-2, victory that brought a standing ovation from an appreciative Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd.

"When she gets on a roll she doesn't let up," former Australian Open champion and this year's Australian runner-up Pierce said of Seles's recovery.

Despite Pierce playing one of her best and most focused matches in recent memory, Seles picked up the volume of her notorious grunting and the power of her punishing two-handed strokes to turn the contest her way.

Joining Seles in the quarter-finals was 17-year-old rising American star Venus Williams, a 6-3, 6-3 winner over South African Joanne Kruger.

Williams next faces Sandrine Testud of France, who pulled out a 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 victory over Karina Haboudova of Slovakia.

Testud, who picked off fourth-seeded French Open champion Iva Majoli in the second round, secured her final eighth berth by

dominating the tie-break 7-1.

On the men's side 13th-seeded Australian Patrick Rafter and Wimbledon runner-up Cedric Pioline of France took decidedly different paths into the round of 16.

Rafter raced past Frenchman Lionel Roux 6-1, 6-1, 6-2 in under an hour and a half.

Pioline, on the other hand, battled back from two sets to one down to squeak past India's Leander Paes 3-6, 7-6, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4.

How Saturday's seeds fared:

Men (third round): Pete Sampras (1), United States, def. Alex Radulescu, Germany, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Richard Krajicek, Netherlands, def. Alex Corretja (8), Spain, walkover.

Jonas Bjorkman, Sweden, def. Gustavo Kuerten (9), Brazil, 6-3, 6-1, 7-5.

Felix Mantilla (12), Spain, def. John van Lottum, Netherlands, 6-7 (0-7), 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2.

Daniel Vasek, Czech Republic, def. Mark Philippoussis (14), Australia, 7-6 (7-4), 7-5, 6-2.

Petr Korda (15), Czech Republic, def. Martin Damm, Czech Republic, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5.

Women (third round): Martina Hingis (1), Switzerland, def. Elena Likhovtseva, Russia, 7-5, 6-2.

Jana Novotna (3), Czech Republic, def. Mirjana Lucic, Croatia, 6-2, 6-7 (3-7), 6-3.

Lucy Davenport (6), United States, def. Patty Schnyder, Switzerland, 1-6, 6-1, 6-4.

Rachel McQuillan, Australia, def. Conchita Martinez (7), Spain, 6-2, 7-5.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (10), Spain, def. Alexandra Fusco, France, 6-2, 6-1.

Mary Joe Fernandez (12), United States, def. Paola Suarez, Argentina, 6-1, 6-2.

Magui Serna, Spain, def. Kimberly Po (16), United States, 6-4, 6-3.

Ballesteros delays Ryder Cup picks

MUNICH (AP) — Seve Ballesteros yesterday postponed announcing his two captain's picks for the European Ryder Cup team because a lingering wrist injury to Miguel Angel Martin could force the Spanish player out of the event.

The rest of the team was decided yesterday at the BMW Open when Martin and three other players clinched the final guaranteed spots.

Sweden's Robert Karlsson won the \$1.2 million tournament after he edged Carl Watts of England on a four-round total of 264 — 24 under par.

Martin, who hasn't played since missing the cut at the British Open in July, has until Wednesday to prove that he's recovered enough from surgery to play the Ryder Cup which begins September 26 at Valderrama, Spain.

"Martin is a very fair man — I'm sure he will decide for himself if he can play or not," said Ballesteros.

Ballesteros will then announce his two picks Thursday at next week's Canon European Masters held at Crans-sur-Sierre, Spain.

Spain's Jose Maria Olazabal, 11th on the Ryder Cup rankings, will move into the team if Martin drops out.

Martin, who will begin putting practice Wednesday will have to prove to a PGA European tour doctor that day he is fit to play.

"I'm afraid next Wednesday is D-day for us," said European tour executive director Ken Schofield. "There are 11 other players and a team captain involved."

While the American team that qualified for the Ryder Cup event is young and inexperienced, the



UNITED EUROPE — Germany's Bernhard Langer adds plenty of experience to the European Ryder Cup team, which is still awaiting final selections.

European team can again rely on veterans like Germany's Bernhard Langer and Ian Woosnam of Wales.

The European team qualifiers and their number of Ryder Cup appearances: Colin Montgomerie, Scotland, (3), Darren Clarke, Northern Ireland (0), Langer (8), Woosnam (7), Per-

Ulrik Johansson, Sweden (1), Lee Westwood, England (0), Ignacio

Garrido, Spain (0), Costantino Rocca, Italy (2), Thomas Bjorn, Denmark (0), Martin (0) or Olazabal (4).

Nick Faldo, whose 10 appearances are more than all the American qualifiers put together, is one of the favorites to be selected by Ballesteros for his captain's picks.

The US team and number of Ryder Cup appearances: Tiger

Woods (0), Justin Leonard (0), Jim Furyk (0), Scott Hoch (0), Tom Lehman (1), Phil Mickelson (1), Jeff Maggert (1), Brad Faxon (1), Davis Love III (2), Mark O'Meara (3), Fred Couples (4) and Lee Janzen (1).

To add some seasoned players to his young team, US captain Tom Kite picked veterans Lee Janzen and Fred Couples as his wild cards.

Israel electric

Generation and Transmission Group Tender No. 2/1997

For the purchase of electricity from an independent power producer

Extension of last Date for Purchasing request for proposals

The Israel Electric Corporation Ltd. hereby announces that the last date for purchasing the request for proposals for the above tender has been postponed to 10 September 1997.

All other dates applying to the tender shall remain the same.

20/09/97 16:10:16 P.M.

Morocco unhappy with tennis venue in Israel

By HEATHER CHAIT

While local tennis officials say it's "business as usual," the Davis Cup tie between Israel and Morocco to be held later this month at Ramat Hasharon is by no means a fait accompli.

Morocco has requested that the tie (September 19-21) be held in a neutral country and a decision is expected to be handed down within a few days by the International Tennis Federation.

The Moroccan insist that security concerns, rather than politics, are behind their request.

Chairman of the Israel Tennis Association, Dedi Hamik, appeared unfazed at yesterday's press conference in Tel Aviv where he stated clearly, "We won't play unless in Israel."

Hamik continued that he had full confidence that the ITF would rule in Israel's favor, citing the example last year where Spain's request to move the tie from Ramat Hasharon was rejected.

The tie, the first time Israel will host a Moslem country in Davis Cup tennis, is crucial in that the winner will remain in the Europe/African Zone Group I while the loser will drop to Group II.

Court No. 14, not the Canada Stadium, will be the venue for the matches and will be equipped with an especially fast surface to favor the hosts.

Comprising the Israeli squad will be Eyal Ran, Eyal Erlich, Noam Behr, Raviv Weidenfeld and Nir Weigren. Oren Motevasseli, the fourth-ranked Israeli player, chose not to make himself eligible for the squad due to his recent poor shape and his desire to focus on his professional career.

The squad will leave next week to compete in the Tashkent tournament before returning for a practice camp in Israel.

Morocco's top two players, Hisham Azaiz and Karim Alami, are both in the world's top 50 players and are obviously the favorites to win the tie.

However, Israel's captain Shlomo Glickstein was not yet ready to throw in the towel. "On paper they're better than us; they are superb athletes and have all the shots," he said, "but the home advantage and the crowd will help balance the odds."

Eyal Erlich, the top local player ranked at 150 in the world, was also optimistic. "The differences in experience and results are big but we're going to play to win," he said.

Banin makes debut in Serie A

Tal Banin yesterday became the first Israeli to play in the prestigious Italian league when he turned out at Milan's San Siro stadium for his new side Brescia, against Inter Milan with Ronaldo.

Banin, who in the off-season joined the Italian side, recently promoted to the Serie A, Italy's premier division, had a good match, although saw his side lose 2-1 in the dying seconds after he was substituted in the 83rd minute.

Brescia led 1-0 through a 73rd-minute Hubner goal, but two strikes by Ricoba saw the points stay at home.

Comets win WNBA title

HOUSTON (AP) — League MVP Cynthia Cooper scored 25 points, including eight straight free throws down the stretch, as the Houston Comets captured the first WNBA championship with a 65-51 victory over the New York Liberty on Saturday.

The Comets, who beat the Liberty only once in four regular-season meetings, fought a tight defensive battle for a 28-24 half-time lead, then used a 10-0 run early in the second half to take control. The Liberty went scoreless for 6:27 in one stretch.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL — Saturday's results: Atlanta 15, Boston 2; Chicago 9, Cleveland 4; Mets 13, Baltimore 6; Montreal 7, Yankees 2; Florida 4, Toronto 1; Los Angeles 11, Seattle 2; San Francisco 7, Anaheim 3; Philadelphia 2, Detroit 0; Chicago White Sox 9, Houston 2; Pittsburgh 3, Milwaukee 1; Minnesota 4, Cincinnati 1; Kansas City 16, St. Louis 5; Colorado 4, Oakland 3; San Diego 4, Texas 1.

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NEWS

in brief

Gasoline prices up

Fuel prices were updated at midnight last night, with 96 octane gasoline up 1.2 percent to NIS 3.37 a liter and 95 octane (unleaded) gasoline up 1.2% to NIS 3.37 a liter.

Most other fuel prices went down, however. Heating oil is down 3.56%; fuel for public transport is down 3.53%, and fuel for civil aviation is 0.65% lower.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Immigrants to be absorbed on kibbutzim

A new model for absorption whereby groups of new immigrants are absorbed on kibbutzim is to be introduced by the Jewish Agency this week. The first group of immigrants, some 400 from the CIS, is due to arrive tomorrow and will spend a year on kibbutz as part of the "first home in the homeland" absorption program.

A total of 120 families are arriving, in five groups or *garinim*. Each kibbutz involved in the plan will absorb three or four families.

Prior to their arrival, work was done by Jewish Agency emissaries to strengthen the social ties between the families and to introduce them to kibbutz life. Most of the immigrants are between 25-45, according to Aliya Department director-general Mike Rosenberg.

Aryeh Dean Cohen

Gov't must show cause for jamming PA radio

The High Court of Justice yesterday ordered the government to show cause within 10 days why it should not refrain from jamming broadcasts of Radio Palestine. The injunction came at the request of Shmuel MK Avraham Poraz, who said that jamming the broadcasts was illegal because it was contradictory to the Oslo Accords and other of Israel's international obligations. He said that a mutual electronic war could also be detrimental to Israel. The State Attorney's Office pointed out, in its response to the petition, that the jamming has not yet gone into effect.

Batseva Tsir

Tires of 20 Arab cars slashed

Members of the anti-Arab Kach movement are suspected of slashing tires of 20 Arab-owned cars in the Shufat Refugee Camp Saturday night, reports said yesterday. In all dozens of Arab-owned vehicles in east Jerusalem have been vandalized in recent weeks, and Kach has claimed responsibility.

Yesterday Kach spokesmen said the tires were slashed in reaction to stone throwing by Arabs at Jewish-owned cars in the settlement of Ofra and the Samaria area. Kach also issued a statement threatening to react to any Arab action taken against Jews.

Itim

Ministry: Stay away from Kishon River

The Environment Ministry has warned that boating on the Kishon River and even coming into incidental contact with the water could be dangerous.

The Kishon River is the most polluted of the country's waterways, suffering from massive pollution from industrial, municipal and agricultural sources. Fish cannot survive there and contact causes a burning sensation.

The high acidic contents of the industrial pollution is responsible for the burns, said Yeshayahu Bar-Or, head of the ministry's waterways and streams department. The warning was issued after vacationers were found to be boating on the waters.

Liat Collins

No-smoking group upset at minister

The Israel Lobby for the Prevention of Smoking will complain before the High Court of Justice against Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy for "violating his commitment" to bar smoking on all commercial flights to and from Israel that are up to five hours in length.

The case before the High Court, which earlier this year instructed the minister to bring a halt to smoking on shorter flights after airline stewards and a frequent passenger said it was endangering their health, will be heard again in late October. The forum, representing a variety of public organizations opposed to smoking, said it "regretted the minister's failure to meet his commitment to the public," made three months and six days ago.

Judy Siegel

'Algeria gov't still in control'

By DAVID RUDGE

The Algerian government is apparently winning its battle against splintered Islamic fundamentalist forces, despite ongoing massacres in the country, according to Emmanuel Sivan, Professor of Islamic studies at Hebrew University.

Sivan stressed that the fundamentalist uprising in Algeria posed no direct threat to Israel, although it certainly worried neighboring countries, including Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco.

"What is happening at the moment is a fight for control of the countryside between fragmented guerrilla groups," said Sivan.

"The groups are fragmented into very small pieces both because of

persecution by government and internal feuds and government forces.

"The government doesn't want to use the army because it is a draft army and this creates problems of loyalty, so they either use the gendarmes, which is a para-military police force, or village self-defense forces paid for by the government.

"We only get reports of the massacres perpetrated by the guerrilla groups which are involved in a kind of a rear-guard struggle. They can't control the cities or hit oil and gas installations, which are the most crucial resources of Algeria, so they try to destabilize the countryside.

According to Sivan, the battle for control of Algeria is taking place between what for the populace in

general could be described as a struggle between two evils with both sides resorting to extreme and inhuman measures.

"The powers that be are not composed of angels and are involved in an eradication policy, to uproot and physically liquidate the fundamentalist groups which have fragmented into practically hundreds of small groups operating without coordination or an overall strategy but with the capacity to do harm," said Sivan.

"Overall, it seems that the government is winning in this battle at a huge cost in terms of lives and transgression of human rights.

"The balance has been tipping recently in favor of the government, as evidenced by the fact that they were able to conduct a referendum

and parliamentary elections and soon municipal elections, which opponents (of the regime) have been trying to disrupt.

"The latest massacre was a terrible episode in a bloody struggle which is moving to the side of the government at the price I have indicated. If the present regime in Algeria had been toppled, then Morocco and Tunisia would have been in danger.

"The eradication policies of Algeria are on the whole policies which Tunisia and Egypt have been following — the former with a smashing success. Even in Egypt there have been unilateral calls on the part of some terrorist leaders for cease-fire because they understand the balance has tipped in favor of the regime.



First grade

"The best thing about going into first grade is that I'm going to be big, and learn how to read and write, and I'm also looking forward to making new friends during recess," says Noga Aberman of Jerusalem, who starts school today at the state-religious school in Ramot Gimmel. Noga, who said her two biggest concerns were having her penmanship criticized and having to come in from recess, has already got all her pencils sharpened.

(Photo: Karen Ben-Zion; Text: Aryeh Dean Cohen)

Head lice beat local shampoo

By JUDY SIEGEL

The head-lice infestation rate among Israeli children is twice that in the US and other developed countries — largely because of the use of preparations that are not effective against pediculosis, according to Dr. Kosta Mumcuoglu, a parasitologist at the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Medicine in Jerusalem.

According to a recent survey he conducted, the heads of 15 percent of all children from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade are infested by head lice. Mumcuoglu said the rate can drop if the Health Ministry implements its promise, made last year, to demand of pharmaceutical companies scientific proof that their preparations are effective.

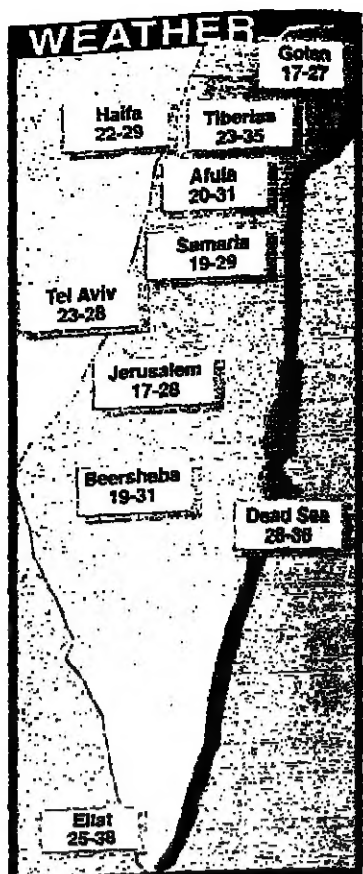
If not, then ineffective shampoos, rinses or sprays would be taken off the market, the ministry said. In general, ministry policy has allowed cosmetics and non-prescription drugs to be sold if they do no harm, and has not required that they be effective.

In an epidemiological study of 15,000 children in the Jerusalem area, Mumcuoglu found that the most common age for infestation is four to 13, and that the large majority of these youngsters had up to 10 lice in their hair.

He recommended that parents comb their children's hair with a regular comb, apply cream rinse to wet hair and wash it out. Then they should go over the hair with a fine-tooth comb for five minutes. If this

is done once or twice a week for two weeks, the combing will break the lice's legs and kill them. Any eggs will hatch during that period, and the young lice will be doomed as well — all without special chemical preparations.

A small videotape with information on preventing and treating pediculosis can be obtained for NIS 15 from the university's parasitology department, the Jerusalem Municipality's health education department and the Hadassah Institute of Technology. Call (02) 6236204 for more information.



AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	WIND
Amsterdam	12	54	21
Berlin	12	54	19
Buenos Aires	11	70	31
Caracas	11	70	31
Chicago	14	57	23
Copenhagen	19	46	31
Frankfurt	11	52	21
Geneva	17	54	21
Helsinki	15	59	29
Hong Kong	29	84	20
Jakarta	27	84	20
London	17	63	20
Los Angeles	15	59	20
Madrid	15	59	20
Moscow	14	57	20
Munich	15	59	20
New York	19	66	27
Paris	14	57	18
Rome	19	61	28
Stockholm	19	66	28
Sydney	24	75	32
Tokyo	15	59	23
Toronto	15	59	23
Vienna	11	52	17
Zurich	11	52	17

Winning cards

In yesterday's first chance drawing, the winning cards were the king of spades, 10 of hearts, ace of diamonds and ace of clubs. In the second drawing, the cards were the king of spades, king of hearts, 10 of diamonds and 9 of clubs.

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Schizophrenia project seeks subjects

By JUDY SIEGEL

A joint US-Israeli effort to identify biological causes of schizophrenia is seeking local Ashkenazi families struck by the disease. The aim is to locate genes that increase the risk for schizophrenia, leading to the development of new medications for treating the disorder.

Family members and patients will be interviewed by an Israeli psychiatrist and then asked to give small blood samples for evaluation, said Dr. Ann Pulver, an associate professor of psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore.

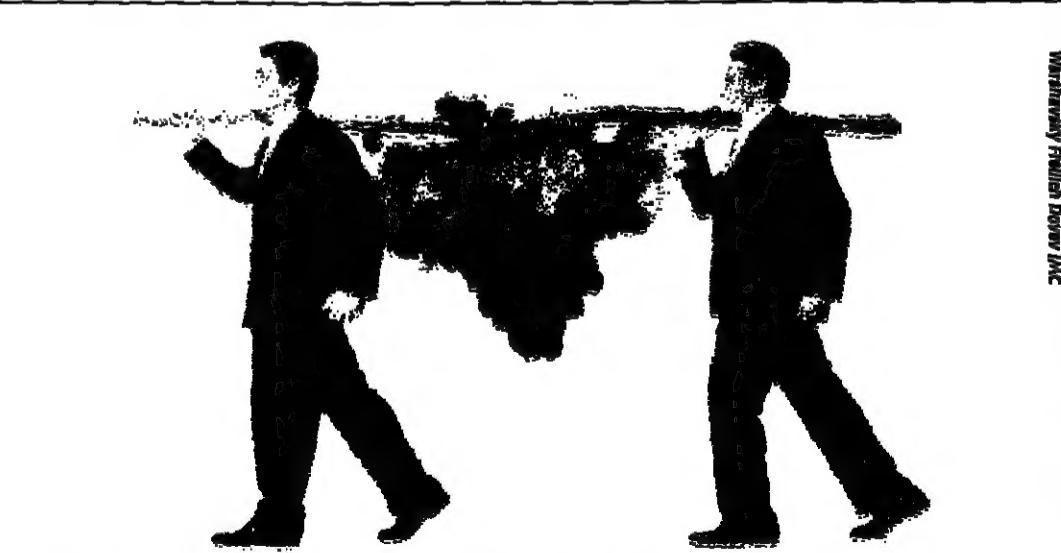
"The Ashkenazi Jewish population does not have a higher frequency of schizophrenia than the population at large, but we are choosing to study Ashkenazim only because they are genetically more homogeneous and can be traced back to a small group of founders," she explained.

The study is looking for families where schizophrenia has affected at least one individual. The affected patients and their parents must be willing to cooperate. If two siblings are affected with schizophrenia and some other severe mental disorder, the researchers will be able to study the family even if only one parent can participate.

In families where there are two affected children and one parent alive, the researchers would also prefer to study unaffected siblings. All information will be kept strictly confidential and participants' expenses will be paid.

Over the past 17 years, Pulver has headed a large-scale effort in the US, studying over 2,000 patients and some 100 families.

Anyone who is interested may contact the Israeli research coordinator at (02)648-0253, call Pulver collect in the US at 1-410-955-0455 or send her e-mail via apulver@welchlink.welch.jhu.edu with a request for more information.



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